

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
1836			
March			
1-2	Washington-on-the-Brazos, Texas		After defeating Mexican forces at San Antonio in early December 1835, Texans draft a Declaration of Independence during a convention held at Washington-on-the-Bravos.
3	Washington-on-the-Bravos, Texas		All 59 delegates to the Texas Constitutional Convention unanimously approve and sign the Declaration of Independence.
6	San Antonio, Texas		Mexican Gen. Antonio López de Santa Anna retaliates with overwhelming force, taking the Alamo and killing all of its defenders, including frontiersmen Davy Crockett and Jim Bowie. "Remember the Alamo" becomes the battle cry.
April			
21	San Jacinto, Texas		Sam Houston leads 800 Texans to a bloody victory over 1,250 unsuspecting Mexicans under Gen. Santa Anna at San Jacinto.
1841			
October			
19		Sutter's Fort SHP	Lt. George Emmons, a member of the Charles Wilkes expedition--the first U.S. scientific exploring expedition to the Pacific Coast--leads a party of 39 along the west bank of the Sacramento River, arriving at Sutter's Fort on October 19th.
November			
4		John Marsh Home	The Bartleson-Bidwell Party--the first emigrant train to California--makes its way through the Sierra and down the Stanislaus River to John Marsh's Rancho.
--		Los Angeles	Following a southern route along the Old Spanish Trail, a party of emigrants led by William Workman and John Rowland reach Los Angeles.

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1842			
September			
11	San Antonio, Texas		Mexican soldiers capture San Antonio, pushing the Republic of Texas closer to annexation with the United States.
October			
19		Monterey SHP	Commodore Thomas ap Catsby Jones, in command of the U.S. Pacific squadron, receives a false report at Callao that the U.S. and Mexico are at war. Sailing from Peru to Monterey, he demands (Oct. 19) and receives (Oct. 20) the surrender of California. Learning of his error, the U.S. flag is lowered (Oct. 21) and Jones apologizes to Gov. Micheltorena.
1843			
—		Sutter's Fort SHP	Lansford W. Hastings leads a party of some 40 settlers down from Oregon to John Sutter's domain, New Helvetia.
—		Sutter's Fort SHP	Joseph B. Chiles leads 9-10 men into California via the Malheur and Pit Rivers.
August			
23	Mexico		Mexico warns the United States that any attempt to annex Texas will be considered an act of war.
1844			
January			
—		Gilroy Rancho	Joseph R. Walker guides a party of 50 into California by way of the eastern edge of the mountains to Walker Lake, then westward into Owens Valley and, via Walker Pass, into the San Joaquin Valley. They reach Gilroy's rancho in the Santa Clara Valley in January.
April			
12	Washington, D.C.		The United States and Texas sign the Texas Annexation Treaty, providing for the admission of Texas as a territory.

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November 25		Donner Memorial SP	The Stevens-Townsend-Murphy Party of overland emigrants, under the leadership of Elisha Stevens, reaches the summit of the Sierra Nevada and subsequently opens the first practicable wagon route to California (the Truckee Route of the California Trail).
December —	Mexico City, Mexico		Gen. José Joaquín de Herrera becomes the President of Mexico.
7	United States		Ardent expansionist James K. Polk is elected President of the United States, succeeding President John Tyler.
1845			
March			
1	Washington, D.C.		Lame duck President John Tyler formally signs a joint resolution of Congress asking Texas to join the Union. Mexico breaks off diplomatic relations with the United States.
4	Washington, D.C.		James K. Polk is inaugurated as the eleventh President of the United States.
June 23	Austin, Texas		The Texas Congress accepts United States annexation.
July 4	Austin, Texas		A special convention approved by the Texas Congress meets in Austin to draft a State Constitution.
25	Washington, D.C.		Pres. James K. Polk dispatches Gen. Zachary Taylor with 4,000 troops U.S. Army troops to Corpus Christi, Texas.
August 16	Bent's Fort, Colorado		Lt. John C. Frémont leaves Bent's Fort with his third U.S. exploratory expedition. (Frémont was given brevet Captain status after his 2 previous expeditions.) The party's 60 experienced frontiersmen include: mountain men Christopher "Kit" Carson, Dick Owens, Lucien Maxwell, Basil Lajeunesse, Alexis Godey, and Joseph Walker; typographer and artist Edward Kern; and 12

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			Delaware Indians, among others.
October			
13	Texas		A popular vote in Texas approves the new Texas Constitution.
17		Monterey SHP	Thomas O. Larkin is appointed confidential agent for the U.S. in California. He is told to oppose any attempt by a foreign power to take over the country. The U.S. Pacific squadron already operates under orders to occupy California ports in event of war.
25		Sutter's Fort SHP	William B. Ide and his family, having crossed the Sierra, arrive at Sutter's Fort.
November			
10	Washington, D.C.		Representative John Slidell of Louisiana is sent to Mexico by Pres. James K. Polk in an attempt to restore diplomatic relations and to offer \$5 million, if Mexico would be "sensible" about Texas, as well as another \$5 million for New Mexico, and up to \$25 million for California.
16	New York		Marine Lt. Archibald Gillespie leaves for California with confidential documents for Thomas O. Larkin, including letters of introduction from President Polk to Larkin and to Lt. John C. Frémont, and correspondence to Frémont from his father-in-law, Sen. Thomas H. Benton.
—	Walker Lake, Nevada		John C. Frémont's exploratory expedition, having split into 2 parties while crossing the Salt Desert, reunites at Walker Lake.
			Once again, Lt. Frémont divides his expedition. He and Kit Carson take a small party to Sutter's Fort via Truckee Pass, while Joseph Walker leads the main group south through Walker Pass, located in his previous travels. They plan to rendezvous near Tulare Lake.
30	Veracruz, Mexico		John Slidell arrives at Veracruz representing the U.S. (He is refused recognition by the Mexican government in mid-December).
—	Mazatlan, Mexico		U.S. naval ships with John D. Sloat, Commander of the Pacific squadron, on

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			board anchor at Mazatlan, Mexico.
December 10		Sutter's Fort SHP	Lt. John C. Frémont, with about 15 of his company, stops for supplies at Sutter's Fort enroute to his rendezvous site. Sutter's chief clerk, John Bidwell, cannot furnish all of Frémont's requested supplies. The Frémont party departs to meet Joseph Walker's group. (Confusion over the rendezvous point, however, later leaves the larger party camped on the Kern River and Frémont waiting on the Kings River.)
25		Sutter's Fort SHP	A party of 10 emigrants headed by Lansford W. Hastings, and including Robert Semple, arrives at Sutter's Fort.
29	Washington, D.C.		Pres. James K. Polk signs the Texas Admission Act and Texas formally becomes the 28th state of the Union.
31	Mexico City, Mexico		Gen. José Joaquín de Herrera is deposed as President of Mexico by Major Gen. Mariano Paraedes y Arrillaga.

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1846			
January			
2	Mexico City, Mexico		Gen. Mariano Paraedes y Arrillaga becomes the President of Mexico. He vows to defend all territory he considers Mexico's, including Texas. Paraedes moves to reinforce the border and bids the Mexican Army attack at the first opportunity.
13			Considering John Slidell's failed mission an augury of war, Pres. James K. Polk orders Gen. Zachary Taylor to advance troops to the Rio Grande and the U.S. fleet to Mexican ports.
15		Sutter's Fort SHP	With no word from the main party and in need of more supplies at their camp on the Kings River, Lt. John C. Frémont and his small company return to Sutter's Fort. John Sutter entertains Frémont, along with Capt. William S. Hinckley, Yerba Buena port captain, and U.S. Vice-Consul William Leidesdorff.
19		Kern River	Fremont's main command under Joseph Walker, having crossed the Sierra by way of the Owens River and Walker Pass, camp on the Kern River to await Frémont.
		San Francisco (Yerba Buena)	Lt. John C. Frémont and 8 of his party sail on Sutter's launch with William Leidesdorff, William B. Ide and Capt. Hinckley for Yerba Buena.
24		Sutter's Fort SHP	The Frémont party returns to Sutter's Fort and, with William Leidesdorff, heads overland for San Jose and Monterey.
27		Monterey SHP	Frémont's small company arrives in Monterey. He meets with U.S. Consul Thomas O. Larkin and asks for his help in obtaining permission from the Mexican government to reequip and supply his men.

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29		Monterey SHP	Mexican Commandante Gen. José María Castro inquires through U.S. Consul Thomas O. Larkin what errand brings John C. Frémont to California. In reply, he states that he is an officer in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and engaged in surveying "the nearest route from the United States to the Pacific Ocean."
February 1		Monterey SHP	Lt. John C. Frémont and his party depart Monterey.
4	New York		The chartered ship, <i>Brooklyn</i> , sails from New York for California with 238 emigrants on board--nearly all Mormons--with Elder Samuel Brannan in charge. Printer Edward Kemble accompanies the Mormons.
6		Calaveras River	Finding no sign of Frémont, the large expeditionary group under Joseph Walker travels north toward Sutter's Fort. Near the Calaveras River they hear of Frémont at San Jose and immediately head there.
15		Rancho Laguna near San Jose	Eight miles south of San Jose, the entire command of John C. Frémont is reunited at William Fisher's Rancho Laguna Seca.
22	Mazatlan, Mexico		Lt. Archibald Gillespie travels overland to Mazatlan and sails on the U.S.N. sloop <i>Cyane</i> by way of Honolulu for Monterey.
21-25		Henry Cowell Redwoods SP	Lt. John C. Frémont's large exploratory party of 60 well-armed men crosses the valley and travels into the Santa Cruz Mountains, camping among the large coastal redwoods. They then descend along the San Lorenzo River to the coast near Santa Cruz.
March 5		Hartnell's Rancho	John C. Frémont's large force marches inland up the Salinas Valley, camps at Hartnell's Rancho, then travels to the coast without permission from Mexican authorities in California. Gen. José María Castro, suspicious of Frémont's intent, orders the group to immediately depart California.

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March			
6		Fremont Peak SP	Infuriated by Gen. Castro's orders, John C. Frémont and his men defy the command and hastily erect and fortify a log stockade on the summit of Gavilan Peak. They raise the United States flag.
8	Corpus Christi, Texas		Ordered by Pres. James K. Polk to "defend the Rio Grande," the American Army led by Gen. Zachary Taylor leaves Corpus Christi and begins to march south toward the river.
9		Monterey SHP	Thomas O. Larkin transmits a warning to Frémont by letter entrusted to Prudencio Espinosa.
9-10		Fremont Peak SP	Frémont and his party abandon Gavilan Peak at night and retreat to the San Joaquin River.
13		San Juan Bautista SHP	Gen. Castro issues a proclamation and rallies the populace in support of Mexico. 150 citizen soldiers are mustered in at San Juan Bautista.
21		Sutter's Fort SHP	John C. Frémont and his men arrive at Sutter's Fort, then pitch camp across the American River.
28	Rio Grande, Texas		Gen. Taylor's troops reach the Rio Grande across the way from the Mexican city of Matamoros.
30		Lassen's Rancho	Frémont's large force travels up the Sacramento Valley, briefly stopping at Keyser's rancho on the Bear River, Cordua's on the Yuba River, and Neal's on Butte Creek, before arriving at Lassen's rancho.
April			
1	Mazatlan, Mexico?		Commander of the Pacific squadron, John D. Sloat, sends the U.S.N. sloop <i>Portsmouth</i> to Monterey.
5-11		Reading's Rancho	At the behest of settlers in the area, Lt. Frémont's men attack an Indian village on Reading's rancho. A large number of Indians are slain.

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14		Lassen's Rancho	John C. Frémont's expeditionary force leaves Lassen's rancho to proceed northward to Oregon.
17		Monterey SHP	Lt. Archibald Gillespie arrives in Monterey aboard the U.S.N. sloop <i>Cyane</i> , under the command of Capt. William Mervine. After communicating with Larkin, Gillespie leaves shortly thereafter for Yerba Buena (later San Francisco) to find Frémont.
22		Monterey SHP	The U.S.N. sloop <i>Portsmouth</i> , under Captain John B. Montgomery arrives in Monterey.
25	along the Rio Grande, Texas		Mexican Army troops under Gen. Anastasio Torrejon attack U.S. troops commanded by Gen. Zachary Taylor over disputed land between the Nueces and Rio Grande rivers, in the first military action leading to the Mexican War.
27	Washington, D.C.		Pres. James K. Polk signs a resolution to end the joint American-English occupation of the Oregon Territory.
28		Sutter's Fort SHP	Lt. Archibald Gillespie stops at Sutter's Fort enroute up the Sacramento Valley to find John C. Frémont.
30	along the Rio Grande		The Mexican Army crosses the Rio Grande River.
May 1	Independence, Missouri		Edwin Bryant and 2 traveling companions leave Independence for California. Their journey would later be recounted and published as <i>What I Saw in California</i> .
3		San Juan Bautista SHP	Former Mission San Juan Bautista's orchard is sold to settler Olliver Deleissègues on account of the Mexican government's indebtedness.
	Fort Texas, Texas		The Mexican Army places Fort Texas under siege.

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May			
8	Klamath Lake, Oregon		Lt. John C. Frémont's large expeditionary force camps at the north end of Klamath Lake.
	Palo Alto, Mexico		The United States Army defeats the Mexicans at the Battle of Palo Alto in the first major engagement of the Mexican War.
9	Ambuscade Creek, Oregon		Lt. Archibald Gillespie finds Frémont and delivers letters from home along with instructions. Frémont later summarized Gillespie's communications: "The time has come. England must not get a foothold. We must be first. Act; discretely, but positively..."
			Ambushed by Klamath Indians, Frémont's men retaliate with a raid on a nearby Indian village. 14 Indians are killed and the village is burned.
	along the Rio Grande, Texas		U.S. forces commanded by Gen. Zachary Taylor force the Mexican Army back across the Rio Grande in the Battle of Resaca de la Palma.
13	Washington, D.C.		War is declared between the United States and Mexico. Pres. James K. Polk signs the proclamation of war four days after Washington learns of the provocative skirmish on the Rio Grande on April 25th.
			The U.S. Congress authorizes \$10 million for the recruitment of 50,000 soldiers to serve in the Mexican War.
		Monterey SHP	A call for a "consejo general de pueblos unidos" is issued to deliberate on California's future destiny. Delegates are to be elected on May 30th and to assemble in Santa Barbara on June 15th.
15	Washington, D.C.?		Col. Stephen Watts Kearny is given command of the Army of the West.
18	Matamoros, Mexico		Gen. Zachary Taylor and his troops cross the Rio Grande and take Matamoros, Mexico after Gen. Mariano Arista's force leaves.

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June		Lassen's Rancho	John C. Frémont's expeditionary party heads south down the valley, by way of Lassen's rancho and the Sutter Buttes.
		Sutter Buttes	Frémont's party reaches the Sutter Buttes in early June and initiates strike on local Indians, who he believes are being incited to attack foreign settlers by Gen. José María Castro.
5	Fort Leavenworth, Kansas		Col. Stephen Watts Kearny receives orders (issued in Washington, D.C., June 3) to march across the continent to Santa Fe and to take possession of California. He is told to cooperate with naval forces (which are expected to be in possession of the ports).
7		San Francisco (Yerba Buena)	Marine Lt. Archibald Gillespie visits Yerba Buena to obtain supplies for Frémont.
8		Ide's Rancho	William B. Ide receives a note and leaves for John C. Frémont's camp, located near the Sutter Buttes.
		Knight's Landing	Mexican Lt. Francisco Arce crosses the Sacramento River with horses obtained for Comandante Gen. José Castro (at Santa Clara), bragging to settler William Knight that Castro plans to use the horses to drive Americans from Northern California.
		Sutter's Fort SHP	Mexican Lt. Francisco Arce spends the night at John Sutter's fort.
9		Sutter Buttes	William Knight carries the intelligence about Lt. Arce's horses to Frémont's camp. A company of men under the leadership of Ezekiel Merritt leave to forcibly take the horses from Arce to prevent their reaching Castro.
		Sutter's Fort SHP	Ezekiel Merritt stops at Sutter's Fort to ask after Lt. Francisco Arce.
		Murphy's Rancho	Lt. Francisco Arce's party spend the night at Martin Murphy's rancho on the Cosumnes River.

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June			
10		Murphy's Rancho	At dawn, Ezekiel Merritt and his small band of Americans surprise Lt. Francisco Arce's party and take their horses. Merritt boasts of their plan to take Sonoma.
		Fremont's Camp	William Ide and other settlers arrive at John C. Frémont's camp (relocated on the Bear River on the Bear River near its junction with the Feather River) to discuss the situation with Frémont and others. Late in the evening, Ezekiel Merritt returns with the horses. Encouraged and advised by Frémont, a decision is reached by the group present to take over Sonoma. Hasty preparations are made. Merritt is in command.
11		Fremont's Camp on the Bear River	In the early hours of the morning, 13 men--Ezekiel Merritt, his raiders, and William B. Ide--leave for Sonoma. They cross the Sacramento River near the mouth of the Feather River and take the less traveled route by way of Cache Creek, Berryessa Valley, and Pope Valley, then ride across the mountains into Napa Valley near Bale's Mill by the 12th.
13		San Jose	Lt. Francisco Arce and his men make haste to San Jose to report to Mexican Comandante Castro the outrage committed by the Americans.
		Sutter's Fort SHP	Marine Lt. Archibald Gillespie returns from Yerba Buena in the U.S.N. sloop <i>Portsmouth's</i> launch, accompanied by several naval officers and a boat-load of supplies for Frémont's party.
		Bale Grist Mill SHP	Ezekiel Merritt and his band gather supporters to their cause--now numbering about 32. They rest for a day at Bale's mill before continuing on to Sonoma.

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14		Sonoma SHP	<p>At dawn, Ezekiel Merritt, William Ide, John Grigsby, Robert Semple, William Todd, and others surround Mariano Vallejo's home and take over the barracks. They capture Mexican officers, Gen. Mariano G. Vallejo, Capt. Salvadore Vallejo and Lt. Col. Victor Prudon, an action later called the "Bear Flag Revolt." Surrender documents are drawn up over glasses of brandy.</p> <p>The insurgents disagree as to the purpose of their movement. Some are eager for independence, others want to provoke Gen. José María Castro's forces into attacking John C. Frémont's, thereby causing the United States to take up arms against Mexico. There are also worries that Frémont will not support the actions he has helped to incite.</p> <p>Merritt, Grigsby, and Semple, accompanied by acting interpreter Jacob Leese, leave Sonoma to take the prisoners to Sutter's Fort. William B. Ide assumes command of the force in possession of Sonoma, but has difficulty controlling their actions. Ide is disrespected by many, who consider him an idealist, or fear he is helping to create an independent nation for the Mormons to control.</p>
15		Sonoma SHP	<p>A proclamation, written by William B. Ide, is issued declaring the "Bears" intention to establish a republican government independent of Mexico. A supplemental proclamation is later circulated on the 18th of June.</p>
		Vaca's Rancho, Vacaville	<p>The "Bears" and their Californio captives camp for the night at Vaca's rancho.</p>
		Sausalito	<p>Lt. John Missroon is ordered by Capt. John Montgomery of the U.S.N. sloop <i>Portsmouth</i>, anchored at Sausalito, to ascertain the situation in Sonoma. Montgomery expresses concern for the safety of the civilians in and around Sonoma.</p>
	Washington, D.C.		<p>The U.S. and England sign the Oregon Treaty, establishing the 49th parallel as the boundary between the U.S. and Western Canada.</p>

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June			
16		Discovery Park (mouth of the American River)	The prisoners are brought to John C. Frémont's camp at the mouth of the American River. Frémont denies any responsibility for their capture, declares them prisoners of the people, and sends them under guard to Sutter's Fort.
		Sutter's Fort SHP	John A. Sutter resigns his Mexican military commission and announces his support for the Americans' "Popular Movement."
			Prisoners Gen. Mariano G. Vallejo, Capt. Salvadore Vallejo, and Lt. Col. Victor Prudon, along with Jacob Leese, who acts as their interpreter, arrive at Sutter's Fort. All are incarcerated. John Bidwell is placed in charge of the prisoners until Frémont replaces him with Lt. Edward M. Kern of the California Battalion.
		Monterey SHP	Word reaches Monterey of the revolt by the Americans at Sonoma.
—		Petaluma Adobe SHP	While Gen. Vallejo is held prisoner at Sutter's Fort by the "Bears," his Petaluma rancho is looted.
17		Sonoma SHP	By the 17th, a crude flag flies above the plaza in Sonoma. It is made of plain cotton, ornamented in red flannel with a star, a bear, and a red stripe, and emblazoned with the lettering: "California Republic." The grizzly bear is adopted as a symbol for the movement because of its strength and unyielding resistance.
			William Todd volunteers to take a letter from William B. Ide in Sonoma to the highest ranking American naval officer at San Francisco Bay.

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17		Sausalito	William Todd brings news of Sonoma to Capt. John Montgomery of the U.S.N. <i>Portsmouth</i> , who sends a reply with Lt. John Missroon.
		Santa Clara	Mexican Comandante Gen. José María Castro issues proclamations appealing to Californians to fight in defense of their country and promises to protect all foreign residents taking no part in the revolt. Over the next 10 days Castro succeeds in increasing his force to about 160. They are organized into 3 divisions under the commands of J.A. Carrillo, Joaquin de la Torre, and Manuel Castro.
18		near Santa Rosa	Two Americans, Thomas Cowie and George Fowler, who had volunteered to bring a keg of powder back to Sonoma from H.D. Fitch's rancho, are captured and killed near Santa Rosa.
19		Sonoma SHP	The size of the force holding Sonoma grows to 100. Many blatantly disregard the Mexican population's personal rights and private properties. Robberies and rapes are committed by the insurgents, damaging the credibility of the movement.
20		Discovery Park (mouth of the American River)	Samuel Hensley and Pierson B. Reading bring a report to Frémont's camp that Comandante Gen. José María Castro is preparing for hostilities. They ask for Frémont's assistance.
		Monterey SHP	The U.S.N. sloop <i>Cyane</i> brings a confidential letter from Commodore John D. Sloat, commander of the Pacific squadron, to U.S. Consul Thomas O. Larkin.
	Honolulu, Hawaii		The <i>Brooklyn</i> (having left New York in February, 1846) arrives in Honolulu for 10 days before sailing to Monterey.
23		Sutter's Fort SHP	John C. Frémont gathers a force. Bolstered by Samuel Hensley, Pierson Reading and many trappers and settlers, he hurries for Sonoma, after leaving behind a small garrison near Sutter's Fort.

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June			
23		Point Quinton	José Joaquin de la Torre with 50 or 60 men crosses from San Pablo to Point Quinton. Other divisions under J.A. Carrillo and Manuel Castro travel as far as San Pablo.
		El Presidio de Santa Barbara SHP	In Santa Barbara, Governor of Mexican California Pío Pico learns of the taking of Sonoma and issues a proclamation to gather patriotic support.
		Sonoma SHP	Henry L. Ford, a lieutenant with the "Bears," leads a group from Sonoma, intent upon rescuing William Todd (who had been captured on or about the 20th) and in pursuit of those responsible for the deaths of the Americans near Santa Rosa.
24		Olompali SHP	Lt. Ford's group encounters Capt. José Joaquin de la Torre's force of Californios at Olompali. A battle is triggered when Americans attempt to seize horses from a corral. Two are killed and two wounded.
25		Sonoma SHP	John C. Frémont's combined force of 72 men arrive in Sonoma. They are a motley group of hunters, trappers and settlers composed of: Americans, French, English, Swiss, Poles, Russians, Prussians, Chileans, Austrians, Pawnees, Delawares, and California Indians. From Frémont's explorers and the Bear Flaggers, the 250-man California Battalion is organized into 4 companies under the commands of Richard Owens, Henry L. Ford, John Grigsby, and Granville Swift.
26		Sonoma SHP	Reinforced by Lt. Henry L. Ford's troops, Frémont marches from Sonoma with 134 men for Mission San Rafael, expecting to find Capt. de la Torre's force.
	Mount Pisgah, Iowa		At Mount Pisgah, one of the principal Mormon encampments, Capt. James Allen issues a invitation, authorized by Pres. James K. Polk and Col. Stephen Watts Kearny, to create a 500-man battalion, to be mustered into U.S. service for 12 months for an expedition from Santa Fe to California.

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July		Point San Pedro	Three Mexican civilians, Francisco and Ramon de Haro (twin brothers) and their uncle, José de los Reyes Berreyesa, are apprehended by Kit Carson and others and are killed. (Motive for these acts is unclear.)
		Sonoma SHP	An intercepted letter leads Americans to believe that Gen. José María Castro plans to invade Sonoma.
		Sonoma SHP	John C. Frémont makes a hasty return to Sonoma in the middle of the night to protect Sonoma from a perceived Californio attack (which never happens). Frémont is nearly shot by the "Bears" upon his reappearance in Sonoma.
		Sausalito	75 or 80 men under Capt. José Joaquin de la Torre cross the bay from Sausalito to San Pablo, and march toward Santa Clara.
		Sutter's Fort SHP	Lt. Washington Bartlett and John Bidwell at Sutter's Fort leave to join the "Bears" at Sonoma.
	30 Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas		Col. Stephen Watts Kearny leaves Fort Leavenworth, Kansas to lead the 1,458 men of the "Army of the West" on the Santa Fe Trail to California. Kearny carries orders naming him commander in California and instructions to establish a civil government as soon as possible.
July	1 Mexico		Mexico formally declares war on the United States.
		Golden Gate National Recreation Area (Fort Point National Historic Site)	John C. Frémont leaves Sonoma and crosses San Francisco Bay with 20 men, including Kit Carson and Robert Semple, to spike 10 cannons at the abandoned Spanish gun battery christened "Castillo de San Joaquin" (Fort Point).
		Council Bluffs, Nebraska	Capt. Allen, sent westward with a letter to Brigham Young, meets with the Mormon council, which supports the idea of creating a Mormon Battalion.

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July			
2		Monterey SHP	<p>U.S. Commodore John D. Sloat's flag-ship <i>Savannah</i>, from Mazatlan, joins other ships of the Pacific squadron--the <i>Cyane</i> and <i>Levant</i> in Monterey, and delivers news of the war between the United States and Mexico.</p> <p>U.S. Consul Thomas O. Larkin, not in sympathy with the "Bears," expects the United States flag to be raised voluntarily by the populace. Como. Sloat hesitates to raise the American flag.</p>
4		Sonoma SHP	John C. Frémont's force returns to Sonoma. A jubilant 4th of July celebration and fandango honor the Republics of California and the United States.
5		Sonoma SHP	<p>During a public meeting at Salvador Vallejo's house, John C. Frémont is placed in command (while William B. Ide's authority is terminated) as leader of the "Bears."</p> <p>John Bidwell is placed on a committee with William B. Ide and Pierson Reading to draft a pledge or statement of purpose for the California Republic.</p>
6		Sonoma SHP	The California Battalion leaves for Sutter's Fort, leaving John Grigsby in charge of Sonoma with 50 men.
7		Monterey SHP	Como. John D. Sloat dispatches Capt. William Mervine with 140 armed sailors and 85 marines ashore to raise the U.S. flag at Monterey and to take possession of California for the United States. A proclamation from Sloat is read and a 21-gun salute is fired from each of the 3 naval ships.
		Santa Clara	Charles M. Weber and two others, reported secretly raising a force in support of the "Bears," are arrested by Comandante Castro at San Jose. Weber is taken south as a prisoner with Castro's troops.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
8		San Juan Bautista SHP	Comandante Gen. José María Castro moves his command from Santa Clara to San Juan Bautista.
9		San Francisco (Yerba Buena)	Capt. John B. Montgomery of the U.S.S. <i>Portsmouth</i> raises the United States flag in the plaza at Yerba Buena. Volunteer guards are organized to protect the town.
		Sonoma SHP	The California Republic's Bear Flag is taken down at Sonoma. Lt. Joseph Warren Revere, dispatched by Capt. Montgomery at Yerba Buena, raises the United States flag and posts Sloat's proclamation.
		San Juan Bautista SHP	Comandante Gen. José María Castro abandons San Juan Bautista and moves his troops south.
9-10		Sutter's Fort SHP	John C. Frémont and the California Battalion arrive at Sutter's Fort and then move to their old camp on the American River.
11		Sutter's Fort SHP	The United States flag is raised and given a 21-gun salute at Sutter's Fort. Robert Livermore arrives with a message from Como. John D. Sloat for Frémont to come to Monterey.
		San Jose	Capt. Charles Fallon with 40 men enters San Jose to hold it for the United States.
		Los Ojitos, near Mission San Antonio	Comandante Gen. Castro at Los Ojitos sends a communication to Gov. Pío Pico reporting Sloat's invasion.
		San Luis Obispo Gov.	Pío Pico receives news at San Luis Obispo and, that same day, sends orders directing every effort to be made in defense of the Mexican capital, Los Angeles.
		San Francisco (Yerba Buena)	The British ship <i>Juno</i> arrives in San Francisco Bay.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
July			
12		Santa Margarita Rancho	Comandante Gen. José María Castro and Gov. Pío Pico advance to meet at Santa Margarita. Both are jealous and distrustful of the other, as are the northern and southern Californio officers and men. Separately they move toward Los Angeles.
		Sutter's Fort SHP	From Sutter's Fort, John C. Frémont and members of the California Battalion, about 160 strong, leave for Monterey.
		San Luis Reservoir SRA	The California Battalion travels down the Sacramento, up the San Joaquin, and crosses the hills, probably by way of Pacheco Pass.
14	New York		Company F, 3rd Artillery, composed of many Irish and German immigrants, departs on board the <i>Lexington</i> . Among them are 1st Lieutenants William T. Sherman and Edward O.C. Ord, and Lt. Henry W. Halleck with the engineers accompanying the detachment.
15		Monterey SHP	Como. Robert F. Stockton arrives in Monterey from Honolulu aboard the 60-gun U.S.N. <i>Congress</i> under Capt. Samuel DuPont.
16		San Jose	Capt. Charles Fallon raises the United States flag over the <i>juzgado</i> in San Jose.
		El Presidio de Santa Barbara SHP	Gov. Pío Pico issues a proclamation at Santa Barbara appealing to the Mexican people of California to defend their country against foreign invaders.
	Council Bluffs, Nebraska		The 500-member Mormon Battalion is mustered into U.S. service.
17		Monterey SHP	Admiral George F. Seymour, in command of the British Pacific squadron on board the warship <i>Collingwood</i> , reaches Monterey.
		San Juan Bautista SHP	Capt. Daingerfield Fauntleroy, a purser on the <i>Savannah</i> , and a squad of dragoons raises the United States flag at San Juan Bautista. Frémont and the California Battalion arrive.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.</u>	<u>California</u>	<u>Event or Activity</u>
19		Monterey SHP	John C. Frémont and the California Battalion march into Monterey in a grand procession, escorted by the companies under Capt. Daingerfield Fauntleroy and Capt. Charles Fallon.
20	Little Sandy Stream		Four families, numbering 87 persons--Donner, Graves, Breen, and Murphy--form a company to emigrate. They choose George Donner as their captain.
23		Monterey SHP	<p>Como. John D. Sloat assigns Como. Robert F. Stockton commander of all forces and operations on land in California. Stockton officially recognizes the California Battalion of Mounted Riflemen as an arm of the U.S. Navy.</p> <p>Capt. Samuel DuPont is transferred to the <i>Cyane</i>, Capt. William Mervine to the <i>Savannah</i>, and Lt. John W. Livingston to the <i>Congress</i>.</p>
24		Los Angeles	Gov. Pío Pico and Comandante Gen. José Castro convoke the territorial assembly in Los Angeles and decide to organize a Californio militia.
25	Fort Bridger, Wyoming		The Donner Party reaches Fort Bridger.
25/26?		Monterey SHP	Major Frémont and the California Battalion, consisting of 165 Americans, sail on the U.S.N. sloop <i>Cyane</i> for San Diego. James Marshall is among their company.
28	Fort Bridger, Wyoming		The Donner Party leaves Fort Bridger resolved to take a cut-off recommended by Lansford Hastings.
29		Monterey SHP	<p>Como. John D. Sloat sails aboard the <i>Levant</i> for Washington, D.C. (where he arrives in November). Como. Robert F. Stockton issues a proclamation regarding the American control of California.</p> <p>Lt. Joseph Revere and Capt. Daingerfield Fauntleroy are appointed to command the garrisons of Sonoma and San Juan Bautista, respectively.</p>

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
July			
29		Old Town San Diego SHP	Maj. John C. Frémont and the California Battalion arrive aboard the U.S.N. <i>Cyane</i> to occupy San Diego. Lt. Stephen C. Rowan, U.S.N., raises the United States flag. Capt. Samuel F. DuPont takes possession of the Mexican brig <i>Juanita</i> .
31		San Francisco (Yerba Buena)	Samuel Brannan and Mormon colonists arrive in Yerba Buena aboard the <i>Brooklyn</i> , originally chartered in New York.
August			
1		Monterey SHP	Como. Robert F. Stockton departs Monterey, aboard the <i>Congress</i> loaded with 360 marines and seamen bound for San Pedro, with the intention of capturing Los Angeles. U.S. Consul Thomas O. Larkin accompanies them, bent on the United States acquiring California without the use of force.
		Sutter's Fort SHP	Mariano Vallejo and Julio Carrillo are released from their imprisonment at Sutter's Fort.
	Fort Leavenworth, Kansas		The Mormon Battalion arrives at Fort Leavenworth.
	Governor's Island, New York		A regiment of New York Volunteers, to be commanded by Col. Jonathan D. Stevenson, is mustered in at Governor's Island, New York. Drilling for nearly 2 months, many reconsider or run away.
—		Sutter's Fort SHP	John Sutter, appointed a Junior 1st Lieutenant under Edward Kern, is instructed by the U.S. Navy to raise a company of Indian troops to support the emigrants holding the fort for the American government.
3	Salt Desert, Utah		Edwin Bryant's emigrant party crosses the Salt Desert.
4		Campo de la Mesa	Comandante Gen. José María Castro establishes himself with part of his force at the Campo de la Mesa, a short distance outside of Los Angeles. Manuel Castro's and Andrés Pico's troops join him. Word is received that Frémont's force has landed at San Diego.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.</u>	<u>California</u>	<u>Event or Activity</u>
4 or 5		El Presidio de Santa Barbara SHP	While enroute down the coast aboard the <i>Congress</i> , Como. Robert F. Stockton stops at Santa Barbara, raises the United States flag, and leaves a small garrison of Frémont's California Battalion.
6		San Pedro	Como. Stockton lands a poorly prepared force of sailors and marines at San Pedro. The United States flag is raised. The troops train and drill to prepare for the march inland.
		Campo de la Mesa	Comandante Gen. José María Castro learns of Stockton's troops arrival at San Pedro.
	Mexico City, Mexico		Gen. José Mariano de Salas is given supreme executive authority for the government of Mexico by the military.
7		San Pedro	Gen. Castro sends Pablo de la Guerra and José María Flores to Stockton's camp to demand an explanation of his purpose, while implying a willingness to enter into negotiations. Stockton refuses to bargain with them and insults the emissaries.
8		Old Town San Diego SHP	After a week spent gathering horses, Maj. John C. Frémont and members of the California Battalion, about 120 strong, march overland north to join Como. Stockton in Los Angeles. A small garrison is left behind at San Diego.
		Sutter's Fort SHP	Salvador Vallejo, Victor Prudon and Jacob Leese are released from their imprisonment at Sutter's Fort.
	Washington, D.C.		Representative David Wilmot attaches a rider (the "Wilmot Proviso") to a bill for \$2 million to negotiate a peace with Mexico. It stipulates that neither slavery nor involuntary servitude will be allowed in territory acquired from Mexico. The bill passes the House, but is not enacted upon by the Senate.
9		Campo de la Mesa	Comandante Gen. Castro, after holding a council of war with his officers, resolves to leave California, and notifies Gov. Pío Pico to that effect.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
August			
9-15	Humboldt Sink, Nevada		The Donner Party endures great hardship crossing the desert, before reaching the headwaters of the Humboldt.
10		Los Angeles	Gov. Pío Pico submits Castro's communication to the territorial assembly in Los Angeles. After denouncing the ambition of the United States, he bids the assembly farewell. Pico notifies foreign consuls that California is to be left without a government. Castro disbands his military force. Pico and Castro each leave Los Angeles for Mexico City.
		Santa Margarita Rancho	Pío Pico stops at his Santa Margarita Rancho and is cut off by advancing Americans. He is hidden by his brother-in-law John Forster for almost a month.
11		San Pedro	Como. Robert F. Stockton's force begins a march to Los Angeles from San Pedro.
12		San Pedro	Capt. William D. Phelps of the <i>Moscow</i> arrives at San Pedro and hurries to join Como. Stockton's force.
13		Los Angeles	Como. Robert F. Stockton and Maj. John C. Frémont join forces and enter Los Angeles. Bandsmen lead the marchers, playing "Hail Columbia" and "Yankee Doodle." The United States flag is raised. Capt. Archibald Gillespie is placed in command of the occupation of Los Angeles. James Marshall becomes the chief carpenter for the American military and is kept busy remodeling buildings for their use.
15		Monterey SHP	The first edition is printed of the first newspaper in California, <i>The Californian</i> .

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.</u>	<u>California</u>	<u>Event or Activity</u>
17		Los Angeles	Como. Robert F. Stockton issues a proclamation and declares the United States has annexed California, which is now under martial law. Stockton signs himself "commander-in-chief and governor of the territory of California."
		San Pedro	Commander Joseph B. Hull, on board the <i>Warren</i> , anchors at San Pedro bringing news of the war.
18	Santa Fe, New Mexico		Upon capturing Santa Fe unopposed, Brig. Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny sends the larger part of his "Army of the West" to aid Gen. Zachary Taylor in Mexico. Kearny then takes the Gila Trail to California with 300 men.
18-19		Monterey SHP	Some of Comandante Gen. José María Castro's officers, including Joaquin de la Torre, come to Monterey and are paroled with word of Castro and Pico's flight.
19		Los Angeles	Como. Robert F. Stockton proclaims all of the Mexican coast south of San Diego to be in a state of blockade. He sends the <i>Warren</i> and <i>Cyane</i> to blockade the ports of Mazatlan and San Blas.
20	Nevada		Short of food supplies, William McCutchen and Charles Stanton of the Donner Party volunteer to press ahead of the group to bring back relief from California.
		Truckee River	Edwin Bryant reached the Truckee River on the eastern slope of the Sierras, enroute to Johnson's rancho and Sutter's Fort.
22		Los Angeles	Como. Stockton orders the election of alcaldes and other municipal officers to be held in several towns and districts of California on September 15th.
26		San Francisco (Yerba Buena)	Lt. Washington Bartlett is appointed alcalde of the San Francisco district, with headquarters at Yerba Buena.
28		Los Angeles	Kit Carson leaves Los Angeles with dispatches for Washington from Stockton and Frémont, indicating the conquest of California is over.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
August 31		Los Angeles	Como. Robert F. Stockton establishes a Southern Department for the military under Capt. Archibald Gillespie, instructing him to maintain martial law with the 50 men assigned to garrison Los Angeles.
September 1		Los Angeles	Maj. Frémont and the remnant of his California Battalion leave Los Angeles and march northward through the Sacramento Valley to recruit more men and to gather horses for possible use by Stockton.
		Sutter's Fort SHP	Edwin Bryant's party reaches Sutter's Fort.
2		Los Angeles	Como. Stockton creates the post of military commander of the territory and John C. Frémont is promoted to fill the command. Stockton intends to devote his attention to naval operations on the Mexican coast. Three days later he sails northward aboard the <i>Congress</i> .
—		Los Angeles	Frémont promotes John Bidwell to Captain and Magistrate of the San Luis Rey District.
4		Monterey SHP	Alcalde Walter Colton impanels the first jury ever summoned in Monterey.
5		Los Angeles	Kit Carson and a small party head east with reports from Como. Stockton.
7	Baja California		Gov. Pico, joined by his secretary, escapes into Baja California.
		El Presidio de Santa Barbara SHP	The <i>Congress</i> stops at Santa Barbara and takes on board the garrison left earlier in August.
14	Mexico City, Mexico		Antonio López de Santa Anna becomes commander-in-chief of the Mexican Army.
15		Los Angeles	Capt. Archibald Gillespie sends Capt. Ezekiel Merritt with 12 men to San Diego to safeguard it for the Americans.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.</u>	<u>California</u>	<u>Event or Activity</u>
15		Monterey SHP	Como. Robert F. Stockton and the <i>Congress</i> arrive in Monterey. Walter Colton is popularly elected as <i>alcalde</i> in Monterey.
18		Old Town San Diego SHP	Capt. Ezekiel Merritt's men reoccupy San Diego.
20	Monterrey, Mexico		Gen. Zachary Taylor and his forces attack and take Monterrey, Mexico after 3 days of savage fighting.
		Old Town San Diego SHP	Capt. Ezekiel Merritt is joined by a small force under the command of Capt. John Bidwell, who arrives from Mission San Luis Rey. Under threat from Californios, they, along with 25 civilians who support the conquest, retreat aboard the commandeered whaler <i>Stonington</i> in San Diego Bay.
23		Los Angeles	Californios in Los Angeles are alienated by Capt. Archibald Gillespie (who proves to be a martinet) and the American soldiers. Before daylight, men loyal to Mexico and led by Sérbulo Varela, surround and surprise the small garrison. The Californio resistance solidifies many Californios' hostilities against the foreign invaders.
		Boyle Heights-- Los Angeles (Paredón Blanco)	Varela's force quickly grows to over 300 men, with many of the former Mexican military officers assuming their old ranks. Capt. José María Flores is chosen to act as comandante general. Antonio Carrillo is made second in command, and Capt. Andrés Pico <i>comandante de escuadron</i> .
24		Los Angeles	Capt. Archibald Gillespie abandons the government house and fortifies a hilltop against 600 hostile Californios.
25	Santa Fe, New Mexico		Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny with 300 men of Companies C and K, 1st Dragoons of the Army of the West takes the Gila Trail headed for California.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
September			
24-29		Los Angeles- San Francisco (Yerba Buena)	Capt. Archibald Gillespie requests a volunteer to go for help. Courier Juan Flaco "Lean John" Brown gallops on horseback from Los Angeles to find Como. Stockton or Maj. Frémont and to get reinforcements for Gillespie. He rides 500 miles in 6 days, eventually finding Stockton in Yerba Buena, aboard the <i>Congress</i> .
26		Boyle Heights-- Los Angeles (Paredón Blanco)	Sérbulo Varela, Diego Sepúlveda, and Ramon Carrillo are dispatched from Paredón Blanco with 50 men to capture Benjamin Wilson. (Wilson had been instructed by Como. Stockton to guard the San Bernadino frontier.)
	New York		Stevenson's New York Volunteers depart New York aboard three vessels--the <i>Thomas H. Perkins</i> , <i>Loo Choo</i> , and <i>Susan Drew</i> . The convoy is under the U.S. sloop-of-war <i>Preble</i> . Forty men are left behind in New York to be sent later.
26-27		Chino Rancho	The Californios join forces with José del Carmen Lugo and march on Rancho Santa Ana de Chino. They capture 20 Americans led by Benjamin D. Wilson. The prisoners are taken under guard to Comandante Gen. José María Flores.
28	Mexico City, Mexico		A force of 3,000 men under Gen. Antonio López de Santa Anna leaves the capital for San Luis Potosí.
29/30		Los Angeles	Comandante Flores demands the American garrison's surrender in Los Angeles.
		San Pedro	Capt. Archibald Gillespie and his troops are permitted to march unmolested to San Pedro, after abandoning their post in Los Angeles.
		San Francisco Bay	During the last days of September, Como. Robert F. Stockton sails from Monterey into San Francisco Bay with the <i>Savannah</i> and the <i>Congress</i> .

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.</u>	<u>California</u>	<u>Event or Activity</u>
October			
1-2		El Presidio de Santa Barbara SHP	Manual Garfias with a small force of Californios is dispatched to take the Santa Barbara garrison. The small American detachment led by Theodore Talbot flees. Lt. Col. Gumesindo Flores is appointed to command the garrison of Santa Barbara.
		Santa Margarita Rancho	Comandante Flores sends Francisco Rico and 50 men to recapture San Diego from the Americans. They are recalled to Los Angeles after reaching Santa Margarita rancho.
—		Sutter's Fort SHP	William McCutchen and Charles Stanton reach Sutter's Fort in search of aid for the Donner Party.
4		San Pedro	Capt. Archibald Gillespie spikes the field artillery pieces left behind at San Pedro. Gillespie and his troops board the merchant ship <i>Vandalia</i> at San Pedro Bay.
		San Francisco (Yerba Buena)	A public reception is given for Como. Robert F. Stockton at Yerba Buena.
		San Francisco Bay	Como. Stockton directs Capt. William Mervine to sail with the <i>Savannah</i> for San Pedro to assist Gillespie.
5	Gravelly Ford, Nevada		John Snyder is killed by James Reed in a quarrel over their teams. The Donner Party banishes Reed from their group.
6		San Pedro	Capt. William Mervine and the <i>Savannah</i> arrive at San Pedro, bringing nearly 350 men to join Gillespie's men from the <i>Vandalia</i> . On the 7th, they march to recapture Los Angeles.
	Rio Grande River		Along the Rio Grande River, south of Socorro, New Mexico, Kit Carson with 15 men encounters Gen. Stephen W. Kearny. Convinced the conquest of California is over, Kearny sends more of his troops back to Santa Fe and proceeds west with 100 men. Carson remains with Kearny.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
October			
7-8		San Pedro	Capt. John Bidwell and a small group from San Diego, seeking food and assistance from Capt. William Mervine at San Pedro, find he has left. Bidwell's group returns to the <i>Stonington</i> .
8		Dominguez Rancho, near Compton	Enroute to Los Angeles, the American force occupies the Dominguez rancho. Before midnight, troops of José Maria Flores join Antonio Carrillo's with a four-pounder brass gun. The Californios harass the Americans on foot, using guerilla tactics and their field gun. Six are killed, with as many injured. Capt. Mervine's force retreats to the ships at San Pedro. (The Battle of Dominguez Ranch is also called the "Battle of the Old Woman's Gun" after the field gun hidden in Ignacia Reyes' garden.)
	San Luis Potosi, Mexico		Mexican Gen. Antonio López de Santa Anna's force arrives at San Luis Potosi enroute to challenge Gen. Zachary Taylor.
9/12	Santa Fe, New Mexico		Two divisions of the Mormon Battalion reach Santa Fe.
10/11?		Old Town San Diego SHP	Out of food, Capt. Ezekiel Merritt, Capt. John Bidwell, and 25 soldiers and sailors leave the <i>Stonington</i> to drive out the opposing Californios and to reoccupy San Diego. Merritt sends a whale boat from the <i>Stonington</i> to San Pedro requesting aid.
12	Humboldt Sink, Nevada		21 head of cattle are stolen from the Donner Party by Indians. Several families are without oxen or horses. Two are left to die.
12-13		San Pedro	The whaler <i>Magnolia</i> is chartered by Americans and sent with 35 sailors and 15 volunteers to San Diego from San Pedro.
13		San Francisco Bay	The <i>Congress</i> and the chartered merchant vessel <i>Sterling</i> leave San Francisco Bay for the southern coast. The former with Stockton on board is to reinforce Capt. Archibald Gillespie's beleaguered troops at San Pedro, the latter, bearing Maj. Frémont and his battalion, is to stop at Monterey.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
13	Santa Fe, New Mexico		Lt. Philip St. George Cooke assumes command of the Mormon Battalion, having been left behind by Gen. Kearny with orders to take charge of the group and open a wagon road to the Pacific by the Gila route.
16		Old Town San Diego SHP	After nightfall, reinforcements under the command of Lt. George Minor, U.S.N. <i>Savannah</i> , and Midshipman Robert C. Duvall, arrive at San Diego from San Pedro to support Capt. Ezekiel Merritt and Capt. John Bidwell. All are under siege for more than a month by the Californios, positioned above the town on Presidio Hill and under the command of Sérbula Varela.
17		Sonoma SHP,	After visiting Sonoma, Edwin Bryant, accompanied by Lt. Joseph W. Revere and Thomas O. Larkin, travel to San Francisco on horseback via Gen. Mariano Vallejo's Petaluma rancho.
19		Monterey SHP	Como. Robert F. Stockton leaves Monterey on board the <i>Congress</i> bound for San Pedro.
	Santa Fe, New Mexico		The Mormon Battalion departs Santa Fe for California.
	Wadsworth, Nevada		Charles Stanton, accompanied by California Indians, returns to the Donner Party from Sutter's Fort with 7 mules loaded with supplies to reprovision them.
23		San Pedro	Como. Robert F. Stockton arrives with U.S. forces to retake San Pedro under fire from Californios. Stockton decides to retake Los Angeles from the south, by way of San Diego.
	area of Reno, Nevada		Alarmed by an impending storm, the Donner Party resumes their journey. For 3 weeks, in small detached groups, the frightened immigrants waste their strength and resources in vain attempts to break through the snowy mountain barrier. Most of their cattle stray or perish.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
October			
23		Los Angeles	The Alta California's territorial assembly in Los Angeles is summoned and reorganized. José María Flores is elected ad interim governor and comandante general. The country is declared in a state of siege and martial law is in force.
			Gov. José María Flores appoints Manuel Castro commandant of Mexican military operations in the north with headquarters at San Luis Obispo.
26		Los Angeles	Gov. Flores instructs Capt. Leonardo Cota and Ramon Carrillo to press the Californio siege at San Diego.
28		Monterey SHP	Maj. John Frémont and his men, on board the <i>Sterling</i> , land at Monterey intent on finding horses and to recruit more new members for the California Battalion. Within a month, over 200 recruits are obtained for the battalion, which include many immigrants, native California Indians and Walla Walla Indians.
29	Monclova, Mexico		Gen. John Wool's U.S. Army troops occupy Monclova.
31		Monterey SHP	Californio opposition develops in the Monterey area, with news of the resistance in the south.
		San Juan Bautista SHP	After learning of the revolts in Southern California, Lt. William Maddox marches with 30 men to San Juan Bautista to spike the cannon, take the locks from the muskets, and to carry the brass artillery pieces with all the horses obtainable to Monterey.
		Old Town San Diego SHP	Como. Robert F. Stockton and Capt. Archibald Gillespie arrive aboard the U.S.N. <i>Congress</i> with 40 marines and volunteers, who reinforce the men under siege at San Diego. The ship then departs. Skirmishes and running fights are almost daily occurrences for nearly a month.
November			
—		Old Town San Diego SHP	On orders from Stockton, Capt. Samuel Hensley is sent southward for cattle and horses, as is Capt. Gibson of the battalion on board the <i>Stonington</i> .

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
—		San Luis Obispo	Comandante Manuel Castro arrives at San Luis Obispo with plans to gather supplies from the region and to capture as many of Frémont's horses as possible, preventing the California Battalion from aiding Como. Robert F. Stockton in the south.
—		San Pedro	Como. Stockton returns briefly to San Pedro in preparation for his assault on Los Angeles.
—		San Pedro	Capt. William Mervine is sent with the <i>Savannah</i> to Monterey to aid Maj. Frémont, who decides to mount an overland expedition from Monterey to march south.
—		Alder Creek, Donner Memorial SHP	A cabin, built by the Stevens Party in 1844 at Truckee Lake (now Donner Lake), is occupied and others are hastily constructed by the Donner Party. Six miles east on Alder Creek, the Donner families with 5 or 6 others encamp in tents and brushwood huts. George Donner is disabled in an accident. Jacob Donner dies, followed by several others in December.
13	New York		More Stevenson's Regiment Volunteers leave New York for California aboard the <i>Brutus</i> .
	_____		Gen. Winfield Scott is appointed commander of a projected Veracruz invasion.
15		Los Verjeles Rancho	While enroute to Yerba Buena to visit his wife and sick child, U.S. Consul Thomas O. Larkin stops at Joaquin Gomez' rancho and is captured by Californio forces.
		San Juan Bautista SHP	Capt. Charles Burroughs, an immigrant active in recruiting battalion members arrives at San Juan Bautista from Sacramento with 34 men and several hundred horses. Capt. Thompson also arrives from San Jose with 34 men.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
November 16		Natividad Rancho	Californios under the command of Manuel Castro, who hold Thomas O. Larkin captive, meet 50 of the California Battalion at the Battle of Rancho Natividad. In the engagement 4 or 5 Americans are killed and 5 or 6 wounded. Californios lost 3 or 4 men with an equal number injured. Afterwards, the Californios abandon their plan to seize horses and to harass the California Battalion.
	Saltillo, Mexico		Gen. Zachary Taylor's force occupies Saltillo.
17		Monterey SHP	Lt. Col. Frémont and his men leave Monterey bound for San Juan Bautista, where the California Battalion is better organized.
18		Old Town San Diego SHP	Arriving on board the <i>Congress</i> , Como. Robert F. Stockton returns to San Diego to prepare for an advance on Los Angeles. Stockton's 27-member band entertains the community.
22	Colorado River junction		Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny's force reaches the vicinity of the Colorado River junction after a difficult march.
—		Los Angeles	Antonio F. Coronel is dispatched to Mexico to solicit aid from the Mexican national government. He brings with him the flag captured at San Pedro and a band of horses and mules. At Warner's rancho, he learns that a party of Americans from San Diego are intent upon capturing his horses.
23?		Old Town San Diego SHP	The sloop <i>Cyane</i> joins the U.S.N. ships <i>Congress</i> and <i>Savannah</i> , and sloop <i>Portsmouth</i> in San Diego Bay and adds its marines and sailors to create a force of 600 men.
23		Mission San Luis Rey	Capt. Andrés Pico is ordered to proceed with a hundred men to San Luis Rey to cut off the Americans, believed to be headed for Santa Isabel and Coronel's horses. Capt. Cota is instructed to cooperate with Pico.
—		San Diego	Americans, preparing for a long defense of San Diego, quickly construct

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
—	Colorado River ford	(Fort Stockton)	fortifications on Presidio Hill calling them Fort Stockton. Approaching the Colorado River crossing, Antonio Coronel discovers that an American army is coming from the east.
24		San José Valley	Andrés Pico is directed to reconnoiter the region in the vicinity of San José Valley.
25	Colorado River ford		Brig. Gen Stephen Watts Kearny and his troops ford the Colorado River 1½ miles south of Gila Junction.
28		Anza-Borrego Desert SP	Gen. Kearny's beleaguered troops trek through the Carrizo Corridor to reach Carrizo Creek.
29		San Juan Bautista SHP	Lt. Col. John C. Frémont's company leaves San Juan Bautista to meet Como. Stockton. The route of march proceeds up the San Benito, over the hills to Salinas, up the valley and past San Miguel.
December 2		Warner's Ranch	Brig. Gen. Kearny's army arrives at Warner's rancho in John Warner's absence. Edward Stokes, an English ranchero of the region, volunteers to carry a letter to Como. Robert F. Stockton in San Diego.
3		Aguanga, near Temécula	After relaying word back to Gov. José María Flores, and sending his dispatches to Sonora, Antonio Coronel is unexpectedly surprised by Lt. John Davidson with 25 men from Kearny's force. Coronel escapes capture, but loses his animals to Davidson.
		Los Angeles	Internal feuds among the Californios and disagreements about the use of the Chino prisoners captured in late September, lead to Gov. José María Flores' arrest and imprisonment.
		Old Town San Diego	Thomas O. Larkin remains a prisoner and is kept by the Californios in Los Angeles. Reaching San Diego, Edward Stokes reports the arrival of Gen. Kearny at Warner's Pass to Como. Stockton. Capt. Gillespie and 40 volunteers are

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.</u>	<u>California</u>	<u>Event or Activity</u>
			immediately ordered to proceed to Kearny's camp.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
December			
4		Santa Isabel	Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny's force reaches Santa Isabel, where they are entertained hospitably by Edward Stokes' majordomo.
5		Santa Maria Valley	Capt. Archibald Gillespie, Lt. Edward F. Beale, and Midshipman James M. Duncan, along with 35 men and the "Sutter Gun," meet with Gen. Kearny and the remaining Army of the West in the Santa Maria Valley.
		Los Angeles	The territorial assembly meets in Los Angeles to investigate the charges against Gov. Flores. Flores is restored to power.
	Parras, Mexico		Gen. John Wool occupies Parras, having given up his march on Chihuahua.
6		San Pasqual Battlefield SHP	Although exhausted, Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny's army attempts to surprise Californios led by Capt. Andrés Pico, camped at the Indian pueblo of San Pascual in the early morning hours. 21 Americans die and others are wounded in the battle (including Gen. Kearny). Approximately 11 Californios are injured.
	Mexico City, Mexico		The Mexican Congress names Antonio López de Santa Anna President of Mexico.
7		Mule Hill	Moving his troops down the San Pascual Valley, Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny encounters Californios at Rancho San Bernardo, then is besieged by them when camped at Mule Hill.
8		South of San Francisco (Yerba Buena)	Lt. Washington Bartlett, alcalde of Yerba Buena, and 5 men in search of horses are waylaid and taken prisoner by a disgruntled ranchero, Francisco Sanchez, and a small party. Sympathetic Californios join Sanchez' resistance force, growing to 200 strong.
—		Old Town San Diego SHP	An Indian (possibly Delaware), Lt. Edward F. Beale, and Kit Carson carry messages from Kearny, under desperate siege at Mule Hill. Each crosses through enemy lines and endure terrible hardships to reach Como. Robert F. Stockton, 30 miles away in San Diego.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.</u>	<u>California</u>	<u>Event or Activity</u>
11		Old Town San Diego SHP	A relief party of 200 sailors, marines, and volunteers under Lt. Andrew Gray of the U.S.N. <i>Congress</i> , leaves San Diego for Mule Hill, arriving there on the 11th
12		Old Town San Diego SHP	Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny's troops, hungry, wounded and weary, arrive in San Diego, accompanied by Lt. Gray's men. Their arrival delays Stockton's plans for his campaign on Los Angeles.
14		San Luis Obispo	Lt. Col. John C. Frémont and the California Battalion surround and then occupy San Luis Obispo. On the 17th, his army continues south.
16		Donner Memorial SHP	A volunteer party of 15, called the "Forlorn Hope," start over the mountains on improvised snow shoes. 61 persons remain in the Donner Party camps, very ill and weak, with no supplies.
20		Old Town San Diego SHP	Capt. Samuel Hensley returns from his forays south of San Diego with 500 head of cattle and 140 horses and mules.
21	Saltillo, Mexico		Gen. John Wool's forces join those of Gen. Zachary Taylor's at Saltillo.
23	Mexico City, Mexico		The Mexican Congress chooses Antonio López de Santa Anna as Mexican president ad interim.
24		Santa Ynez Mountain, Los Padres National Forest	Frémont's California Battalion climbs Cuesta de Santa Inés and suffers terrible hardships on the descent, including the loss of several hundred horses, as well as equipment.
25		San Jose	Learning of Lt. Washington Bartlett's capture, Charles Weber marches from San Jose with 33 volunteers to attack Sanchez' party, but is diverted to San Francisco for orders and reinforcements.
27		El Presidio de Santa Barbara SHP	Lt. Col. John C. Frémont and his men occupy Santa Barbara for a week before proceeding south.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.</u>	<u>California</u>	<u>Event or Activity</u>
December			
28	Iowa		Iowa joins the Union as the 29th state.
29		Old Town San Diego SHP	Como. Robert F. Stockton and Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny dispute their respective authorities. With Kearny in command of the troops and Stockton as commander-in-chief, 600 men depart San Diego to march on Los Angeles.
		San Francisco	Succeeding Montgomery, Cmdr. Joseph Hull dispatches 100 men under Marine Capt. Ward Marston (including Charles Weber's group) to counter Francisco Sanchez' Californio resistance.
	Victoria, Mexico		American forces commanded by Gen. Zachary Taylor occupy Victoria, Mexico.
31		San Bernardo	Como. Robert F. Stockton and his army of 600 men camp at San Bernardo. They march north on January 1st enroute to Los Angeles, camping successively at Buenavista, San Luis Rey, and Las Flores.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
1847			
January			
2		Mission Santa Clara	Capt. Ward Martson's troops encounter hostile Californios at Santa Clara. Under a flag of truce, Francisco Sanchez explains his grievances and offers a conditional surrender. They await a reply from San Francisco.
3		Mission Santa Clara	Capt. William Maddox arrives with 50 men or more to assist Marston.
		El Presidio de Santa Barbara SHP	Lt. Col. John C. Frémont's battalion advances south from Santa Barbara, as Californios observed from a distance. Dust-laden gales impede their progress.
4		near Las Flores	Under a flag of truce, William Workman, Charles Flügge, and Domingo Olivas bear a letter from Gov. José María Flores dated the 1st. Como. Stockton refuses to negotiate with Flores, demanding unconditional surrender.
5		Los Alisos	While accompanying the army to San Juan Capistrano, William Workman induces Como. Stockton to issue a proclamation offering a general amnesty to all Californians, except Gov. Flores.
8		Mission Santa Clara	A treaty is concluded at Santa Clara in which Francisco Sanchez gives up his prisoners and arms, and he and his men retire from the field of battle.
	junction of the Gila and Colorado Rivers		Under the command of Lt. Philip St. George Cooke, the 350-man Mormon Battalion working to open a wagon road to California, reach the Colorado River.
		Paso de Bartolo on the San Gabriel River	600 Americans under Como. Stockton and 500 Californios under Gov. José María Flores come face-to-face at the upper ford of the San Gabriel River southeast of Los Angeles. The Battle of San Gabriel lasts 2 hours, with an estimated 2 Americans killed and 8 wounded. Similar losses occur on the Californio side.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
January 9		La Mesa	Como. Robert F. Stockton's large force resumes its march for Los Angeles, but makes slow progress in the midst of long-range artillery duels and occasional cavalry charges from Gov. José María Flores' forces. At the Battle of La Mesa, Flores loses 1 man. An unknown number are wounded. Stockton notes 5 injured. Heavy animal losses are reported on both sides. The Americans camp three miles below Los Angeles.
		Los Angeles	Gov. José María Flores releases Thomas O. Larkin and other prisoners before quitting Los Angeles. After La Mesa, none of the Californio officers offer further resistance.
		Frémont's Camp	A letter from Como. Stockton (dated January 3, San Luis Rey) arrives for Frémont. It shares Stockton's movements and plans with Frémont, and warns him to use great caution.
		San Francisco (Yerba Buena)	The first newspaper of Yerba Buena, the <i>Yerba Buena California Star</i> , is published by Samuel Brannan.
10		Los Angeles	A flag of truce is brought to Stockton's camp by Eulogio Célis, Juan Avila, and William Workman, who intercede on behalf of the Angelenos. Combined American forces march into Los Angeles and occupy the town, raising the U.S. flag.
		Colorado River ford	The Mormon Battalion fords the Colorado and enters California.
11		Los Angeles	Como. Robert F. Stockton, as governor and commander-in-chief, issues an order of congratulations to the officers and men of the Southern Division.
		San Fernando Plain	Lt. Col. John C. Frémont receives news that Stockton has defeated the Californio forces and occupies Los Angeles. His battalion of 400 mounted riflemen advances and occupies the buildings of Mission San Fernando.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.</u>	<u>California</u>	<u>Event or Activity</u>
11		Los Verdugos	After an appeal by Jesus Pico urging submission to John C. Frémont, Gov. José María Flores holds a final council with his officers. He turns his military command over to Andrés Pico and leaves for Sonora.
12		Mission San Fernando	With Francisco de la Guerra, Francisco Rico, and Jesus Pico representing Californio interests, an armistice is signed suspending hostilities at Frémont's camp in Mission San Fernando. The Californio forces move their camp to the region of Cahuenga.
13		North Hollywood (Cahuenga Rancho)	José Antonio Carrillo and Agustin Olvera negotiate as treaty commissioners for the Californios, while Major P.B. Reading, Major William H. Russell and Capt. Louis McLane serve on behalf of the Americans. The treaty is signed by the leaders of the combatants, Andrés Pico and John C. Frémont, and it, along with a letter to Gen. Kearny, is then carried by Russell to Los Angeles. The Capitulation of Cahuenga ends the organized resistance to American occupation of California.
14		Los Angeles	Lt. Col. John C. Frémont and the California Battalion arrive in Los Angeles.
16		Los Angeles	Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny orders Como. Robert F. Stockton to either show his authority from the U.S. government or take no further action in relation to California's civil organization. The Como. declines to obey the order. Kearny also sends Frémont a "test" order to make no changes in the organization of the California Battalion.
			Como. Robert F. Stockton commissions John C. Frémont as the first American Governor of California and William H. Russell, Secretary of State under military rule, beginning January 17.
		San Francisco (Yerba Buena)	First news of the Donner Party's peril reaches Yerba Buena.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
January			
17		Los Angeles	John C. Frémont refuses to obey Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny's order on grounds that he received his appointment from Stockton and, upon his arrival in Los Angeles, had found that officer still recognized as commander.
		Anza-Borrego Desert SP	The Mormon Battalion under the command of Lt. Philip St. George Cooke camps at Carrizo Springs.
		Johnson's Rancho	Of the original 15 "Forlorn Hope," only 7 survive to reach Johnson's rancho with word of the Donner Party.
18		Los Angeles	Increasing dissension between Stockton and Kearny over recognition of their respective authorities, causes Gen. Kearny to remove himself and his dragoons from the area. They march from Los Angeles to San Diego.
19		San Pedro	Como. Robert F. Stockton leaves Los Angeles and marches his marines and sailors to San Pedro, where they embark on a ship for San Diego.
21		Warner's Ranch	The weary Mormon Battalion encamps at Warner's rancho.
22		Monterey SHP	Como. W. Branford Shubrick arrives aboard the <i>Independence</i> to succeed Robert F. Stockton in command of the Pacific squadron.
		Old Town San Diego SHP	Como. Stockton and his marines and sailors arrive in San Diego. Stockton checks on the civil government.
23		Old Town San Diego SHP	Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny and his dragoons reach San Diego. Lt. William H. Emory is sent East a few days later with dispatches. Kearny plans to take command of the military in California as soon as his force has been sufficiently increased.
		San Francisco	Lt. Washington Bartlett, first American <i>alcalde</i> of Yerba Buena, issues an order renaming the town San Francisco.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
28		Monterey SHP	The <i>Lexington</i> arrives, commanded by Capt. Tompkins with Company F, 3rd Artillery. The artillery relieves the naval garrison and takes possession of the block house on the hill and the Custom House.
29		Old Town San Diego SHP	After an exhausting journey, Lt. Philip St. George Cooke, 1st Dragoons, and 350 of the Mormon Battalion arrive in San Diego and stay at the old mission. They report to Gen. Kearny. As only a few provisions are available in San Diego, the Battalion marches to Mission San Luis Rey, where, 5 days later, they await further orders.
31		Old Town San Diego SHP	Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny embarks on the U.S.N. sloop <i>Cyane</i> for Monterey.
February 3		Mission San Luis Rey	The Mormon Battalion reaches Mission San Luis Rey.
8		Monterey SHP	Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny and his troops arrive at Monterey from San Diego. Unlike Stockton, Como. Shubrick recognizes Kearny's authority as military commander-in-chief, and disapproves of Stockton's organizing California's civil government, as well as his appointment of Frémont as governor.
11		Monterey SHP	Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny sails aboard the <i>Cyane</i> for San Francisco.
13		San Francisco	The <i>California Star</i> calls for a convention to form a constitution for California.
15		San Francisco	At San Francisco, Kearny finds Col. Richard B. Mason, 1st Dragoons (who had arrived February 12th) with instructions from Washington indicating that the senior officer of the land forces is to be civil governor.
19		Donner Memorial SHP	The first relief party of 7 men reaches the Donner Party's camps, but bring few supplies.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
February			
21		Donner Memorial SHP	The relief party begins their return with 21 survivors of the Donner camps, leaving 31--too weak for the journey or unwilling to abandon those needing their care.
23	Buena Vista, Mexico		U.S. forces commanded by Gen. Zachary Taylor defeat the Mexican Army led by Gen. Antonio López de Santa Anna at the Battle of Buena Vista.
		Monterey SHP	Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny returns to Monterey with Col. Richard B. Mason on board the <i>Savannah</i> .
25		Monterey SHP	Lt. Edward F. Beale and Kit Carson along with 10 men depart for Washington, D.C. with dispatches announcing the acquisition of California.
28	Sacramento, Mexico		The Missouri Mounted Volunteers commanded by Col. Alexander Doniphan defeat the Mexicans at the Battle of Sacramento.
March			
1		Monterey SHP	Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny and Como. W. Branford Shubrick issue a joint circular in which Kearny is appointed civil and military governor of California, effectively displacing Frémont. Monterey is named the capital.
			Lt. Philip St. George Cooke is appointed military commander of the southern district by Kearny.
		Donner Memorial SHP	A second relief party of 10 men, including James Reed and William McCutchen, arrive at the Donner camps.
2		Monterey SHP	Como. James Biddle arrives in Monterey aboard the <i>Columbia</i> .
3		Donner Memorial SHP	17 people are taken from the Donner camps by the second relief party. Of the 14 remaining, 5 die before the next relief group arrives.
6	San Francisco		The <i>Thomas H. Perkins</i> carrying the first detachment of Stevenson's 1st Regiment of New York Volunteers--Companies B, F, and G and Col. Jonathan Stevenson--reaches San Francisco.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.</u>	<u>California</u>	<u>Event or Activity</u>
9	near Veracruz, Mexico		In the first amphibious operation undertaken by U.S. forces, Gen. Winfield Scott lands 10,000 troops near Veracruz.
11		Los Angeles	Lt. Col. John Frémont receives orders from Gov. Kearny to discharge all volunteer battalion members declining to continue in U.S. service, to deliver all public documents under his control, and to report in person to Monterey.
15		Los Angeles	Loyal to Frémont, all the California Battalion refuse to be discharged. In defiance, Frémont retains his title "governor," draws bills of exchange against the government, and issues instructions to the battalion not to obey orders from any other officer, nor to leave San Gabriel.
19		San Francisco	The <i>Susan Drew</i> arrives in San Francisco with companies D, I, and H of Stevenson's 1st Regiment of New York Volunteers, under the command of Lt. Col. Henry S. Burton.
21	Mexico City, Mexico		Antonio López de Santa Anna takes the oath as President of Mexico.
22		Los Angeles	Lt. Col. John C. Frémont departs overland for Monterey, reaching it on the 25th.
23		Los Angeles	Lt. Philip St. George Cooke arrives from San Luis Obispo with a company of dragoons and 4 companies of the Mormon Battalion.
24		San Gabriel	Lt. Col. Cooke calls on Capt. Owens and the California Battalion at San Gabriel. Owens professes no knowledge of Kearny and Shubrick's orders and will not obey them.
26		Monterey SHP	Frémont has an interview with Gov. Kearny and Col. Mason, who question his obedience to orders. After consideration, Frémont promises obedience and leaves for Los Angeles.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
March			
26		San Francisco	The <i>Loo Choo</i> anchors in San Francisco Bay with companies A, C, and K of Stevenson's 1st Regiment of New York Volunteers, under the command of Major Hardie.
28		Monterey SHP	Col. Richard B. Mason is sent south to inspect the troops.
29		Los Angeles	Lt. Col. John C. Frémont reaches in Los Angeles.
	Veracruz, Mexico		American forces commanded by Gen. Winfield Scott occupy the fortress of Veracruz.
31		San Francisco	Companies A, B, and F of Stevenson's 1st Regiment of New York Volunteers sail on board the <i>Moscow</i> for their assigned garrison, Santa Barbara.
April			
1	Mexico		Gen. Pedro María Anaya is named president ad interim of Mexico, while Santa Anna engages in military duties.
—		Sutter's Fort SHP	A fourth relief party to aid the Donner Party survivors departs from Sutter's Fort.
—		Sonoma SHP	Company C, 1st Regiment of New York Volunteers are stationed at Sonoma with Capt. John Brackett in charge.
3		San Francisco	Companies D, E, G, and I of Stevenson's 1st Regiment of New York Volunteers leave San Francisco on board the <i>Lexington</i> for Monterey.
—		Monterey SHP	Members of the New York Volunteers give a minstrel performance in Monterey.
7		Los Angeles	Upon his arrival in Los Angeles, Col. Richard B. Mason has a less than friendly meeting with Lt. Col. Frémont and Lt. Cooke.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.</u>	<u>California</u>	<u>Event or Activity</u>
8		El Presidio de Santa Barbara SHP	The <i>Moscow</i> arrives in Santa Barbara with a three contingents--A, B, and F--of the New York Volunteers.
9		Monterey SHP	A grand ball is given by naval officers in honor of the newly arrived company of Stevenson's 1st Regiment of New York Volunteers.
12		Los Angeles	Col. Richard B. Mason calls for a list of John C. Frémont's civil appointments and for all civil and military records. A few papers are supplied, but most are explained to have been sent to Washington (on March 23rd with William H. Russell in support of Frémont's claim).
14		Los Angeles	Words are exchanged between Col. Mason and Lt. Col. Frémont, which nearly lead to a duel. This is postponed pending a meeting with Kearny in Monterey. Col. Mason leaves for Monterey a few days later. Frémont delays his departure for three weeks.
15	Washington, D.C.		A Spanish-speaking State Department official, Nicholas Trist, is appointed U.S. commissioner to seek peace with Mexico.
17		Donner Memorial SHP	The fourth relief group reaches the remaining Donner Party. (Of the original company of 87, only 48 survive the journey.)
18		San Francisco	The <i>Brutus</i> anchors in San Francisco Bay with a contingent of the Stevenson's 1st Regiment of New York Volunteers, who had originally been left in New York.
	Cerro Gordo, Mexico		American forces commanded by General Winfield Scott defeat the Mexicans at the Battle of Cerro Gordo.
—		Donner Memorial SHP	Samuel Brannan and Charles C. Smith pass the specter of the Donner Party camps, sharing their food with the sole survivor remaining, Lewis Keseberg. They then continue on to the Green River to meet with Brigham Young.
19		San Francisco	The naval convoy ship <i>Preble</i> comes into port.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.</u>	<u>California</u>	<u>Event or Activity</u>
April			
19		Los Angeles	The last of the California Battalion, at one time numbering 475 mounted riflemen and 41 artillerymen in 10 companies, is discharged.
20			Alarming rumors begin to circulate, that a Mexican Army under Gen. Bustamante, commanding the western department at Guadalajara, is coming to reconquer California.
22	Perote, Mexico		Gen. William Worth's army troops occupy Perote on their way to Mexico City.
May			
5		Monterey SHP	Gen. Kearny leaves Monterey for the south coast on board the <i>Lexington</i> , accompanied by Col. Jonathan Stevenson and Companies E and G, 1st Regiment of New York Volunteers. Company I remains to garrison Monterey.
6	Veracruz, Mexico		U.S. commissioner Nicholas Trist lands at Veracruz and immediately antagonizes Gen. Winfield Scott by sending him peremptory instructions to convey a sealed peace proposal to the Mexican government.
7		Ide's Rancho	William B. Ide is appointed Land Surveyor of the Northern Department of Upper California by Col. Richard B. Mason.
9		Los Angeles	Gen. Kearny and a contingent of Stevenson's 1st Regiment of New York Volunteers land at San Pedro, then march to Los Angeles.
—		Los Angeles	Lt. Philip St. George Cooke resigns both as commandant of the Southern District and of the Mormon Battalion. Col. Jonathan Stevenson assumes the command.
12		Los Angeles	John C. Frémont is induced to depart overland for Monterey. A day or two before, Lt. William T. Sherman, serving as Kearny's aid, leaves with a detachment of the Mormon Battalion.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.</u>	<u>California</u>	<u>Event or Activity</u>
13		Los Angeles	In a note to Adj.-Gen. Jones, Kearny states that Frémont's "conduct in California has been such that I shall be compelled on arriving in Missouri to arrest him and send him under charges to report to you."
		Sacramento (Brighton)	Work commences on John Sutter's grist mill at Brighton along the American River.
14		Los Angeles	Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny leaves Los Angeles, embarking at San Pedro for Monterey.
16		Sutter's Fort SHP	James Marshall, Treador (an Indian guide), and 2 others set out from Sutter's Fort to find a suitable site for a sawmill.
19		Benicia Capitol SHP	Mariano Vallejo deeds 5 square miles of the Soscol rancho to Robert Semple and Thomas O. Larkin for the speculative plan of building a town to be named "Francisca," in honor of Vallejo's wife.
20		Marshall Gold Discovery SHP	Finding sufficient timber and water, James Marshall and his companions select a site along the American River called Cullumah (Coloma) for Sutter's sawmill.
	Mexico City, Mexico		Antonio López de Santa Anna returns to assume the executive office, while Gen. Pedro María Anaya surrenders the government to him and leaves for the front.
22		San Francisco	The <i>Californian</i> is first produced in San Francisco, having been transferred from Monterey. Robert Semple is the editor and publisher.
27		Monterey SHP	Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny returns to Monterey.
29		Monterey SHP	John C. Frémont and his explorers arrive in Monterey. Frémont is ordered to turn over his surveying instruments to Lt. Henry Halleck.
		San Francisco	A "grand illumination" is produced in honor of Gen. Zachary Taylor's victory

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.</u>	<u>California</u>	<u>Event or Activity</u>
			in Mexico (February 23) at Buena Vista.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.</u>	<u>California</u>	<u>Event or Activity</u>
May			
31		Monterey SHP	Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny leaves Monterey with an escort accompanied by Frémont and his party. Their route of march covers San Juan Bautista and the San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys. Prior to his departure and in his absence, Frémont authorizes Thomas O. Larkin to negotiate the purchase of ranch land for him. Col. Richard B. Mason proclaims himself governor of California and commander-in-chief of U.S. forces in California with the departure of Gen. Kearny.
June			
6	Mexico		Nicholas Trist, working through British minister Charles Bankhead, initiates peace negotiations between Mexico and the United States, but Mexico will not negotiate.
12		Benicia Capitol SHP	The town "Francisca" is renamed Benicia to avoid confusion with San Francisco.
13		nearby Sutter's Fort SHP	Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny's military contingent, accompanied by Frémont, arrives in the vicinity of Sutter's Fort. Preparations are made for their eastward overland journey.
14		San Francisco	A public meeting is held to protest against John C. Frémont as governor of California.
16		in the vicinity of Sutter's Fort SHP	Gen. Kearny's escort of about 40 men, along with John C. Frémont's party, departs for the east, traveling by way of Johnson's rancho.
18		Johnson's Rancho	The Kearny/Frémont company of men leaves Johnson's rancho, taking the emigrant route east.
22		Donner Memorial SHP	Gen. Kearny's men find and bury the remains of members of the Donner Party, who perished the preceding winter.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
28		San Francisco	Como. Stockton departs San Francisco, proceeds to the Sacramento Valley, by way of Sonoma, and prepares for his overland journey. His party numbers 49.
—		Sutter's Fort SHP	A detachment of 25 men are sent to garrison Sutter's Fort from June-September under Lt. Charles C. Anderson.
July 4		Monterey SHP	July 4th--Independence Day--is celebrated at Monterey.
		Old Town San Diego SHP	5 cannons along with muskets are fired in salute of American Independence at San Diego.
		El Presidio de Santa Barbara SHP	Companies A and B of Stevenson's 1st Regiment of New York Volunteers, under Lt. Col. Henry Burton, sail for La Paz, leaving Capt. Francis J. Lippitt in command of the Santa Barbara post.
		San Francisco	In honor of July 4th, a grand celebration is held, including the decoration of men-of-war and salutes from guns on ships and shore.
6		Old Town San Diego SHP	Pío Pico crosses the Baja peninsula in May and returns to California at San Diego.
16		Old Town San Diego SHP	The Mormon Battalion is mustered out of service.
19/20?		Johnson's Rancho	Como. Robert F. Stockton's party leaves Johnson's rancho for the return eastern journey.
20		Los Angeles	A company of Mormons is again mustered into U.S. service for an additional 6 months.
25		Los Angeles	The company of reenlisted Mormon Battalion volunteers marches from Los Angeles for San Diego.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
August			
—		Stockton	Capt. Charles M. Weber lays out "Tuleburg" as the nucleus of a future town.
—		Old Town San Diego SHP	Mormons in San Diego whitewash buildings, construct a bakery, build the first fired brick building, dig wells, a kiln, and conduct a census.
19	Padierna, Mexico		Two days of fighting begin around Padierna, Mexico (mistakenly called the "Battle of Contreras" in U.S. accounts).
20	Churubusco, Mexico		American forces commanded by Gen. Winfield Scott defeat the Mexicans at the Battle of Churubusco.
22	Fort Leavenworth, Kansas		Gen. Kearny and his company arrive at Fort Leavenworth. That same day, Frémont is formally arrested and ordered to report to the adjutant-general in Washington, D.C.
24	Tacubaya, Mexico		An armistice is proclaimed at Tacubaya for peace negotiations, but ends in failure.
26		Sutter's Fort SHP	Unsuccessful at locating Walker Pass, a company of Mormons, led by Elisha Averett and including Henry Bigler, arrive at Sutter's Fort. A few remain to work in California over the winter. The others press on to cross the Sierra following Kearny's route.
27		Sutter's Fort SHP	An agreement is signed between James Marshall and John Sutter for the construction of the sawmill. Marshall leaves for Cullomah (Coloma).
28		Marshall Gold Discovery SHP	Work commences on a sawmill at Coloma.
—	New York		200 recruits for Stevenson's 1st Regiment of New York Volunteers sail for California aboard the <i>Isabella</i> and <i>Sweden</i> .

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.</u>	<u>California</u>	<u>Event or Activity</u>
September 5		Donner Memorial SHP	Henry Bigler and a group of Mormons, formerly of the Mormon Battalion, while traveling east toward Salt Lake, come upon the scene of the Donner tragedy.
6		in the Sierra along the Truckee River	Henry Bigler and company meet Samuel Brannan and Charles Smith, returning from a visit among the Mormons at Salt Lake, who offer a gloomy picture of the prospects there.
—		in the Sierra	Capt. James Brown, carries a message from the Mormons at Salt Lake advising those of small means to remain in California. He meets with the eastward bound Mormons. Half of whom return to Sutter's Fort and are hired by John Sutter to work on the sawmill at Coloma or the flour mill on the American River at Brighton.
8	Molino del Rey, Mexico		American forces commanded by Gen. Winfield Scott defeat the Mexicans at the Battle of Molino del Rey.
—		Sutter's Fort SHP	Samuel Brannan and Charles Smith open a store at the fort called C.C. Smith & Co.
13	Chapultepec, Mexico		U.S. troops under Gen. Winfield Scott storm and capture the fortified hill of Chapultepec.
14	Mexico City, Mexico		Gen. Winfield Scott's army begins occupation of Mexico City.
16	Mexico		Antonio López de Santa Anna quits as president of Mexico.
17	Washington, D.C.		John C. Frémont reports to the adjutant-general in Washington as ordered.
19		Sutter's Fort SHP	The U.S. garrison at Sutter's Fort is removed.
26	Mexico City, Mexico		Manuel de la Peña y Peña becomes acting president of Mexico.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
October			
—		Sutter's Fort SHP	A party of emigrants, guided by Charles Hooper, arrives at Sutter's Fort with 70 wagons.
16	Mexico		Santa Anna receives an order from the Mexican government relieving him of military command.
—		Sonoma SHP	The U.S. garrison at Sonoma offers the public dramatic performances.
November			
—	St. Joseph, Missouri		Como. Stockton's party reaches St. Joseph, Missouri.
2	Washington, D.C.		John C. Frémont's court-martial is assembled in Washington, D.C. with proceedings continuing into January, 1848.
9	Querétaro, Mexico		Gen. Pedro María Anaya is elected president ad interim by the Mexican Congress.
16	Mexico City, Mexico?		Nicholas Trist receives a recall order from Washington issued by Pres. James K. Polk.
22	Mexico		Gen. Pedro María Anaya appoints peace commissioners to talk with Trist.
25	Mexico		Gen. Zachary Taylor is relieved as commander in northern Mexico by Gen. John Wool. Taylor returns to the U.S. to campaign for president.
28		San Francisco	The steamer <i>Sitka</i> departs San Francisco for the first trip up river to Sacramento.
December			
1	Washington, D.C.		Como. Robert F. Stockton reaches Washington, D.C.
4	Mexico		Urged by the Mexican government and the British legation, Nicholas Trist decides to remain in Mexico for peace discussions.
		Old Sacramento SHP	The <i>Sitka</i> , the first steamship on the Sacramento River, arrives in Sacramento.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.</u>	<u>California</u>	<u>Event or Activity</u>
4		San Francisco	The first meeting of the Odd Fellows is held in San Francisco at the Portsmouth House.
6	Washington, D.C.		Representative Abraham Lincoln of Illinois takes his seat in the House of Representatives.
19		Sutter's Fort SHP	James Marshall returns to Sutter's Fort to have mill irons produced.
28		Monterey SHP	Company I, 1st Regiment of New York Volunteers, under Capt. William E. Shannon, is sent to garrison San Diego in place of the Mormons.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
1848			
January			
1		Marshall Gold Discovery SHP	By New Year's Day, the frame is raised for John Sutter and James Marshalls' sawmill at Coloma.
2	Mexico		In secrecy, peace negotiations begin in Mexico.
8	Querétaro, Mexico		Mexican President ad interim Pedro María Anaya's rule ends. Manuel de la Peña y Peña again becomes acting president.
—		Old Town San Diego SHP	Company I of Stevenson's 1st Regiment of New York Volunteers arrives in San Diego.
24		Marshall Gold Discovery SHP	James Marshall discovers gold in the excavations for the sawmill's tailrace on the banks of the American River at Coloma.
28		Sutter's Fort SHP	James Marshall rides to the fort to report the news of the gold discovery to John Sutter. After testing the gold, Marshall returns to Coloma.
29		Marshall Gold Discovery SHP	John Sutter leaves the fort for Coloma to examine the discovery site. He asks his workers to keep the gold a secret for the next 6 weeks.
31	Washington, D.C.		John C. Frémont is declared guilty of the charges of: mutiny, disobedience and conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline. He is dismissed from service, but Pres. James Polk later removes the charge of mutiny.
February			
2	Guadalupe Hidalgo, Mexico		The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo is concluded. It is ratified in Washington on March 10th with minor changes, and at Querétaro, Mexico May 30. The treaty formally ends the war, assuring the United States control over Texas, and a half million miles of new territory--California, Utah, Nevada, most of Arizona and New Mexico, and parts of Colorado and Wyoming. Except for minor changes, the national boundaries are assured.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
10		Sonoma SHP	John Sutter writes to Mariano Vallejo, "I have made a discovery of a gold mine..."
—		Sutter's Fort SHP	Sutter sends Charles Bennett with a pouch of gold to Monterey to secure the mining rights of the gold discovery site for himself and James Marshall.
—		Benicia Capitol SHP	Enroute to Monterey, Charles Bennett reveals the gold specimens in Benicia and later San Francisco.
14	Washington, D.C.		John C. Frémont resigns from military service.
18	Mexico City		Gen. Winfield Scott receives orders from Pres. James K. Polk to hand over his command in Mexico to Gen. William O. Butler.
21		Marshall Gold Discovery SHP	Henry Bigler writes to his comrades formerly of the Mormon Battalion, at work on Sutter's flour mill, to inform them of the discovery of gold.
27		Marshall Gold Discovery SHP	Three men arrive at Coloma with the intention of searching for gold.
March 1		Monterey SHP	Charles Bennett shows Gov. Richard B. Mason in Monterey a sample of the gold found at Coloma. Mason declines to make any promises respecting the title to the lands.
—		San Francisco	News of the discovery of gold reaches San Francisco from several sources-- George McKinstry, John Bidwell, and C.C. Smith (partner of Samuel Brannan). Many do not believe the claims.
—		Old Town San Diego	Capt. W.W. Shannon and Company I, 7th New York Volunteers garrison San Diego until September 25th, when they are mustered out.
5		San Francisco	Company D of Stevenson's 1st Regiment of New York Volunteers sails for La Paz on board the <i>Isabella</i> .

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
March			
7		Marshall Gold Discovery SHP	Former Georgia miner Isaac Humphrey reaches Coloma. He begins using a "rocker" for mining on the 9th.
11		Marshall Gold Discovery SHP	John Sutter and James Marshalls' sawmill is first tried on March 11. After another weeks' work on the tailrace, the mill is readied for operation.
—		Folsom Lake SRA	Mormons find gold on a bar opposite a little island on the South Fork of the American River--soon called Mormon Island. In the vicinity of Beal's Bar, John Sinclair and some 50 Indians are among the first to mine on the North Fork of the American River
15		San Francisco	The <i>Californian</i> mentions at the bottom of page 2 that gold has been found about 40 miles above Sutter's Fort.
22		Marshall Gold Discovery SHP	Several planks are cut at the sawmill and sent to Sutter's Fort.
25		San Francisco	It is only after personally inspecting the tailrace and gold samples at Coloma that <i>California Star</i> editor Edward Kemble reports the discovery of gold in his newspaper.
April			
—		Old Town San Diego SHP	Companies D and H, 2nd Infantry under Major Samuel P. Heintzelman are assigned to the San Diego area to garrison Warner's, the outlet to Lower California and Sonora, and the mouth of the Gila River, for the protection of immigrant trains rolling toward California.
12	_____		The Pacific Mail Steamship Company is organized and builds 3 side-wheelers--the <i>California</i> , <i>Oregon</i> , and <i>Panama</i> .
14		Sutter's Fort SHP	Sidney Willis and Jesse B. Martin, 2 of the Mormons who had struck gold at Mormon Island, arrive at Sutter's Fort "with a good deal of gold" to trade for goods. This is the first recorded transaction using gold dust in exchange for merchandise.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
		Clear Creek	Pierson B. Reading finds gold deposits on his rancho and works the property with the help of local Indians.
		Monterey SHP	Two letters written about California's mineral wealth are written in Monterey and are carried east by Kit Carson. One is published in the Philadelphia <i>North American</i> on August 3rd, the other in the Washington <i>Daily Union</i> on August 13th.
May	8/15?	San Francisco	Having cornered the market on mining supplies and with stores open at Coloma, Sutter's Fort, and Mormon Island, Samuel Brannan rushes to San Francisco with a bottle of gold, to shout the news of the gold discovery on the American River.
	—	Benicia Capitol SHP	News of the gold discovery reaches Benicia. While others leave for the mines, Robert Semple remains with his ferry business--which becomes immensely profitable.
	—	Marshall Gold Discovery SHP	The sawmill is shut down by mid-May due to high water.
	16	Auburn Ravine	Gold is discovered at Auburn Ravine by Claude Chana and a party of Indians enroute to Coloma from Sicard's Ranch on the Bear River.
	20	San Francisco	It is reported that several hundred people have departed San Francisco for the mines, with more leaving everyday. Those that cannot sail up river, cross to Sausalito by launch, and then by mule, mustang, or on foot by way of San Rafael and Sonoma into the Sacramento Valley. Or, they travel around the southern end of the bay and through the Livermore Pass to the Valley.
	21	Sutter's Fort SHP	Samuel Kyburz opens a hotel at Sutter's Fort.
	27	San Francisco	The San Francisco newspaper, <i>California Star</i> , complained "... stores are closed and places of business vacated, a large number of houses tenantless, various kinds of mechanical labor suspended or given up entirely..."

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
May 29		Monterey SHP	Word of the gold discovery at Coloma reaches Monterey. Four Mormons call at Monterey enroute to Los Angeles with a reported 100 pounds of gold gathered in less than one month at Mormon Island. Within 2 weeks, 1,000 people desert the town for the mines.
		San Francisco	Publication of the <i>Californian</i> is suspended, as most of its readers have left for the mines. The last issue exclaims "The whole country from San Francisco to Los Angeles and from the seashore to the base of the Sierra Nevada, resounds with the sordid cry of <i>gold!</i> GOLD!! GOLD!!!
Spring		Placerville	A party of farmers from the Cosumnes River area--William Daylor, Perry McCoon and Jared Sheldon--begin mining the Old Dry Diggins area.
June —		Spanish Bar	A party of Mormons discover gold deposits on the middle fork of the American River, calling it Spanish Bar.
—		San Francisco	Printing of the <i>California Star</i> is suspended for lack of local subscribers.
3	Washington, D.C.?		The United States and New Grenada sign the Treaty of New Grenada, providing the U.S. with a right-of-way across the Isthmus of Panama.
17		Sonoma SHP	Capt. John E. Brackett's Company C, 1st Regiment of New York Volunteers at Sonoma is reduced from 60 to 23 men because of desertions for the gold-fields.
—		Indian Grinding Rock SHP	Gold is mined by a party of former Stevenson's New York Volunteers in 1848.
—		Monterey SHP	Col. Richard B. Mason, acting Governor of California, with an entourage including Aaron (his African American servant), 2nd Lt. William T. Sherman, Capt. Joseph Folsom, and 4 soldiers, leaves Monterey for the gold fields, traveling by way of Sonoma and Sutter's Fort.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
July			
1		Yuba River	A party led by Patrick McChristian, J.P. Leese, Jasper O'Farrell, William Leery and Samuel Morris dig for gold on the Yuba River.
4	Washington, D.C.		Pres. James K. Polk, after attending the laying of the Washington Monument cornerstone, receives the U.S. copy of the signed Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.
		Sutter's Fort SHP	Col. Richard B. Mason's entourage celebrates Independence Day at Sutter's Fort. John Sutter holds a dinner in their honor.
		Lake Oroville SRA	John Bidwell, after a visit to Coloma, travels to the Feather River with a party of California Indians. They find a rich placer which becomes known as Bidwell Bar. (For two summers, Bidwell using mostly Indian labor, gains enough gold to purchase the 28,000-acre Rancho del Arroyo Chico.)
		Old Town San Diego SHP	The "Old Spanish Flagpole" in San Diego's Plaza is cut down and replaced with a new one for the Fourth of July.
—		Marshall Gold Discovery SHP	Col. Richard B. Mason and his party visit "the mines" at Coloma.
5		Folsom Lake SRA (Mormon Island) Samuel Brannan's	Col. Richard B. Mason's party reaches Mormon Island and challenges Brannan's right to collect tithes from the Mormon miners.
25		Monterey SHP	In a proclamation, Gov. Mason calls on the people of California to assist in apprehending military deserters.
August			
1	La Paz, Mexico		Edward F. Beale leaves for Mexico City and Washington, D.C. He carries naval dispatches and the first samples of California gold to Washington.
6		Monterey SHP	News reaches California of the conclusion of the war.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
August			
7		Monterey SHP	Gov. Richard B. Mason officially proclaims the end of the war, making known the cession of Upper California, the boundary, and the choice of citizenship offered.
			Gov. Mason issues orders for the mustering out of Stevenson's 1st Regiment of New York Volunteers--39 officers and 658 men.
14		San Francisco	The <i>Californian</i> resumes publication in San Francisco.
17			Gov. Richard B. Mason's official report on the gold deposits of California is issued and widely printed.
—		Monterey SHP	At Monterey, 33 regulars desert for the mines, leaving only about 50 men.
—	Coahuila, Mexico		At the conclusion of the war, a dragoon battalion under the command of brvt. Major Lawrence P. Graham, numbering 275 men, 205 teamsters, and other workmen--nearly 500--march from Coahuila, Mexico, by way of Chihuahua in early September, to Tucson in late October, and cross the Colorado River into California in late November.
September			
—		Monterey SHP	Gov. Richard B. Mason begins to grant furloughs for a few months to trustworthy soldiers who desire to mine.
—		Stockton	Tuleburg becomes the headquarters for Charles Weber's mining company. He resurveys the land, renaming it Stockton.
12	New Orleans		The New Orleans <i>Picayune</i> carries the story of Edward F. Beale and his journey to Washington with California gold samples.
	Washington, D.C.		Edward F. Beale reaches Washington, D.C. with his California gold.
14		Sutter's Fort SHP	John Augustus Sutter, Jr. arrives from Switzerland and tries to salvage his father's business affairs.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
21	St. Louis		The St. Louis <i>Union</i> republishes the New Orleans <i>Picayune</i> article on Edward F. Beale and California gold with the editorial comment: "The account is evidently exaggerated."
	New York		The New York <i>Herald</i> recounts Beale's exploits and the gold discovery.
October			
6	New York		The <i>California</i> , first of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company's new ships, sails from New York for California.
14		Sutter's Fort SHP	John Sutter transfers his property around the fort to his son John Sutter, Jr.
29	Honolulu, Hawaii		The <i>Sandwich Island News</i> reports on the California gold rush in its columns.
November			
27+		Anza-Borrego Desert SP	Brvt. Major Lawrence P. Graham's Battalion crosses the desert.
December			
—		Marshall Gold Discovery SHP	Hard pressed for money, John Sutter sells his interest in the sawmill to John Winters and Alden S. Bayley. James Marshall retains his 1/3 interest.
—		Old Sacramento SHP	Sacramento is surveyed and platted by Capt. William H. Warner.
—		Warner's Rancho	Graham's Battalion of U.S. dragoons arrives at Warner's rancho.
—	New York		The just-built Pacific Mail Steamship <i>Oregon</i> leaves New York for California.
5	Washington, D.C.		Pres. James K. Polk's 4th Annual Message to Congress releases the first official information on the California gold strike.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
1849			
—		Empire Mine SHP	George Roberts discovers gold-bearing quartz.
—		Shasta SHP	The town of Reading Springs, later renamed Shasta, is established in 1849. Shasta becomes a wholesale and retail center for the region.
—		South Yuba River	Gold is discovered in 1849 on the South Yuba River
January 8		Old Sacramento SHP	At a mass meeting in Sacramento, a resolution is passed opposing slavery in California.
8-18		Old Sacramento SHP	The Sacramento and American Rivers crest after heavy rains in December. Hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of buildings and merchandise are washed away or damaged.
February 24		Panama	In the February 24th issue of the <i>Panama Star</i> , Gen. Persifor F. Smith, the new incoming military governor of California, announces that he will check the influx of foreigners into the gold region. He will treat all foreigners as trespassers.
28		San Francisco	The first steamship <i>California</i> arrives in San Francisco, after calls at Acapulco, San Blas, San Diego, and Monterey, and immediately is deserted by her crew. On board is Gen. Persifor F. Smith.
March			
April —		Marshall Gold Discovery SHP	Vigilantes at Sutter's Mill drive away masses of Chileans, Mexicans, and Peruvians.
1		San Francisco	The steamship <i>Oregon</i> arrives in San Francisco and, with great difficulty, Capt. Pearson retains his crew to hastily depart for San Blas, carrying back the first mail, California treasure, and passengers.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
12		Monterey SHP	The transport ship <i>Iowa</i> lands at Monterey having brvt. Brig. Gen. Bennet Riley, Lt. Col. 2nd Infantry, and his brigade on board, with instructions to assume the administration of civil affairs in California. Riley becomes the new military governor of California.
28		Old Sacramento SHP	The first issue of the <i>Placer Times</i> newspaper is printed in Sacramento by Edward Kemble.
		Folsom Lake SRA	Samuel Brannan begins a ferry operation at Mormon Island.
May 1		San Francisco?	California's former military governor Col. Richard B. Mason departs California for the East.
—		San Francisco?	T. Butler King, a personal and confidential emissary of Pres. Zachary Taylor (a Southern unionist) and William Gwinn, a one-term Congressman from Mississippi, arrive in California. Gwinn is intent on becoming one of the first United States Senators from California.
—		Benicia	The U.S. Army establishes a depot at Benicia.
12		Marshall Gold Discovery SHP	An advertisement in the Sacramento <i>Placer Times</i> promotes Lansford W. Hastings store in Coloma.
Late Spring		Marshall Gold Discovery SHP	The first bridge across a river in California, or west of the Mississippi River, is constructed across the American River at Coloma.
		Auburn	Soldiers, formerly of Col. Stevenson's 1st Regiment of New York Volunteers mine the Auburn Ravine area before moving on to Barnes Bar.
		Monterey SHP	John C. Frémont returns to California and learns that Thomas O. Larkin has purchased, on his behalf, a ranch (formerly owned by Juan Bautista Alvarado) at Mariposa. Frémont grubstakes a group of Mexicans to mine his property for shares of the gold.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.</u>	<u>California</u>	<u>Event or Activity</u>
June			
1			News reaches California that Congress has ended another session without forming a territorial government for California.
		Old Town San Diego SHP	The U.S. Boundary Commission arrives in San Diego on board the ship <i>Panama</i> (Col. John Weller is the Commissioner and Andrew B. Gray is the Surveyor). They are protected by Company A, 1st Dragoons and Company H, 2nd Infantry under the command of Lt. William H. Emory. Emory also serves as the Chief Astronomer. The commission is to survey the new border.
3		Monterey	Bennet Riley issues a proclamation calling for an election on August 1, 1849 to fill vacant offices and to select delegates for a constitutional convention September 1st. The territory is divided into 10 districts for the election of 37 delegates.
4		San Francisco	The steamship <i>Panama</i> enters San Francisco Bay. The 3 Pacific Mail Steamship Company's ships establish a regular roundtrip schedule between Panama and San Francisco, ferrying eager gold seekers and mail.
15	Nashville, Tennessee		James K. Polk dies in Nashville, Tennessee.
23		Old Sacramento SHP	The <i>Placer Times</i> reports the discovery of 2 nuggets--40 oz. and 25 lbs.--on the North Fork of the American River.
Summer		Auburn SRA	Tamaroo Bar (named in honor of the ship, <i>Tahamaroo</i> , which brought the first miners via the Horn to San Francisco in 1849) is one of many mining camps established along the North Fork of the American River in 1849.
		Sonoma SHP	Gen. Persifor F. Smith moves his military headquarters from San Francisco to Sonoma.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
July		Old Sacramento SHP	The City Hotel built in the summer of 1849, using timbers from John Sutter's grist mill, opens.
		Folsom Lake SRA	The Mormon Island Mining Association undertakes to turn the course of the South Fork of the American River to mine its bed.
	3	Old Town San Diego SHP	The Mexican Boundary Commission arrives in San Diego accompanied by 150 Mexican soldiers. Gen. Pedro Garcia Conde is selected as Commissioner and Jo_é Salazar Ilarequi is appointed as Surveyor.
	4	Folsom Lake SRA	During a meeting at Mormon Island with W.C. Bigelow as chair, concerns are raised over California's governance. Also, anti-slavery sentiments are expressed.
	4/5	Old Sacramento SHP	William M. Gwinn, former Congressman from Mississippi, addresses the people of Sacramento July 4th and, on the following day, at Fowler's Hotel (the City Hotel). Resolutions are passed to support the formation of a civil government for California.
	6	Old Town San Diego SHP	The first meeting of the commissioners appointed to fix the boundary between the U.S. and Mexico is held in San Diego.
August	15	San Francisco	A xenophobic, anti-Catholic group of terrorists called the "Hounds" make an all-out attack on the Spanish-speaking peoples of San Francisco.
	22	Los Angeles	The <i>ayuntamiento</i> or town council of Los Angeles contracts with Lt. Edward Ord to survey the city.
	1		An election is held for delegates to California's Constitutional Convention.
	17	Old Sacramento SHP	The first river steamboat in California, the <i>George Washington</i> , arrives at Sacramento from Benicia.
	25	San Francisco	The <i>Pacific News</i> is first published in San Francisco.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
August			
29	New York		The New York <i>Journal</i> notes of California: "At present the people are running over the country and picking gold out of the country here and there, just as hogs let loose in a forest would root out nuts."
—		along California's coastline	Thomas Butler King directs Como. Jones to send the U.S. steamer <i>Edith</i> to San Diego, Los Angeles, and Santa Barbara, to bring the southern (sympathizer) delegates to Monterey. Enroute, the ship is wrecked in coastal fog, but the passengers survive.
—		San Francisco	Northern sympathizers charter the brig <i>Frémont</i> to carry them from San Francisco to Monterey.
—		Mariposa	The first quartz mill powered by a steam engine is brought to Mariposa by John C. Frémont.
September			
1		Colton Hall, Monterey	Convention delegates meet at Colton Hall in Monterey and adjourn until the 3rd.
3		Colton Hall, Monterey	Delegates assemble at Colton Hall to write a constitution. Debates occur over increasing the size of the delegations from more populous districts. Forty-eight delegates are finally admitted, representing 10 districts apportioned as follows: San Diego, 2; Los Angeles, 5; Santa Barbara, 2; San Luis Obispo, 2; Monterey, 5; San Jose, 7; San Francisco, 8; Sonoma, 3; Sacramento, 8; and San Joaquin, 6.
			Robert Semple is made president of the Convention. J. Ross Browne serves as reporter to the body.
			The issue of slavery is hotly debated, as is the establishment of California's eastern boundary. Proposed boundaries discussed range from: the crest of the Sierra Nevada, to what is today the eastern boundary of Nevada, to the western line of New Mexico.

Date	Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.	California	Event or Activity
			The constitutions of New York and Iowa are used as models.
			The draft constitution includes: the legislature to provide for a system of common schools; restrictions on a state debt exceeding \$300,000, unless in case of war; and prohibitions on lotteries, as they are considered dangerous to the welfare of the people. Also, duels are to be outlawed. The legislature is to meet at San Jose until removed with the consent of 2/3s of both house of the legislature.
—			Upon completion, copies of the Constitution are carried to mining camps, towns, and ranchos throughout California.
—			Edward F. Beale and Bayard Taylor carry drafts of the new California Constitution to Washington, D.C.
—		Old Town San Diego SHP	Col. John Weller is dismissed from his post as Boundary Commissioner by the incoming administration of Pres. Zachary Taylor.
—		San Francisco	William Heath Davis constructs San Francisco's first multi-level brick building.
13		Old Sacramento SHP	Fire strikes the young City of Sacramento.
October 18		Old Sacramento SHP	California's first professional dramatic performance takes place in the Eagle Theatre built for that purpose. The opening bill is <i>The Bandit Chief</i> .
25		Portsmouth Square, San Francisco	The first assembly of aspiring politicians under the draft California Constitution meets at Portsmouth Square with Alcalde Geary acting as chair.
29		Old Sacramento SHP	A mass meeting is held in front of Sacramento's City Hotel to present candidates for election to the legislature and to Congress.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.</u>	<u>California</u>	<u>Event or Activity</u>
November 13			California's Constitution is ratified by popular vote (12,872--yes, 811--no). Peter Burnett is elected governor of California, defeating William Sherwood and John Sutter by a wide margin.
—		San Francisco	By the middle of November 1849, 600 vessels have entered San Francisco Bay.
29		Monterey SHP	In a thanksgiving proclamation, outgoing Gov. Bennet Riley sets aside the 29th day of November for public acknowledgement of gratitude to the Supreme Ruler.
December —		Grass Valley	The first store is opened in Grass Valley by J. Rosiere.
15		San Jose	The Constitution schedule organized by the delegates provides for the first constitutional legislature to assemble on the 15th of December. The new legislature meets in an unfinished building and, subsequently, in the house of Isaac Branham.
20		San Jose	Gov. Bennet Riley steps down from office. Peter Burnett is sworn in as California's first elected governor. Immediately thereafter, the legislature elects John C. Frémont and William M. Gwinn to be U.S. Senators.
		Humboldt Bay	Dr. Josiah Gregg relocates the Humboldt Bay (recorded earlier by Capt. Jonathan Winship in 1806).
21		San Jose	Peter Burnett delivers his inaugural speech as governor.
24		San Francisco	A great fire burns San Francisco.
31			At the close of 1849, historian Hubert Howe Bancroft estimates the influx into California by sea at 39,000 (23,000 of whom are Americans), 42,000 overland (9,000 from Mexico, 8,000 coming through New Mexico), and 25,000 by way of the Rocky Mountain South Pass and Humboldt River.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mexico, United States, Texas, and Other Terr.</u>	<u>California</u>	<u>Event or Activity</u>
1850			
—		Marshall Gold Discovery SHP	The town of Coloma is surveyed and Main Street is laid out in 1850.
—		Orleans Bar	Placer mining begins at Orleans Bar in 1850.
—		Millerton Lake SRA	Mining in the area begins in 1850. The town of Millerton is founded as Rootville in 1850.
—		Old Town San Diego SHP	Lt. William H. Emory is asked to serve as interim Boundary Commissioner.
—		Torrey Pines SR	Dr. C.C. Parry, engaged with the Mexican Boundary Survey in 1850, along with Dr. Joseph Le Conte identify the Torrey Pines as a distinct species.
January			
16	Washington, D.C.		A bill is introduced in Congress to organize the territories of California, Utah, and New Mexico. Controversy erupts over their would-be status as "free" or "slave" states.
18		Old Sacramento SHP	Shiny flakes discovered at the foot of J Street cause a minor gold rush in the streets of Sacramento.
February			
1		Border Field SP	By February 1st, the Boundary Commission surveyors have determined the end points for the California portion of the international boundary.
4		San Jose	Unhappy with their quarters at San Jose, a bill is passed by the legislature making Vallejo the new permanent seat of government.
27		Old Sacramento SHP	The City of Sacramento is incorporated.
March			
—		San Diego	William Heath Davis forms a partnership with several other investors to lay out a new town site for San Diego closer to the waterfront.
—		Nevada City	Nevada City is organized as a town.

**CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS IN
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March	27	Columbia SHP	Gold is discovered by Dr. Thaddeus Hildreth, his brother George and a handful of other prospectors. Hildreth's Diggings, a tent-and-shanty town is established. (It is later renamed American Camp, then Columbia.)
		Vallejo	The California legislature adjourns.
April		Benicia Capitol SHP	The City of Benicia is incorporated.
	4	Old Sacramento SHP	A second great fire strikes Sacramento.
	9	Vallejo	The State Library is founded.
	13	Vallejo	The legislature imposes a tax of \$20 per month on all foreign miners, in the form of a license.
	19	Washington, D.C.?	The United States and England sign the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty, providing for the neutrality of a canal built across Central America.
	22	Vallejo	Gov. Peter Burnett signs a bill into law for the "protection, punishment, and government of Indians." It permits Indian labor to be exploited under a system of Indian apprenticeship.
	26	Gold Run	The <i>Sacramento Transcript</i> reports that Gold Run claims are being sold for between \$5,000 and \$18,000.
May	28	Old Town San Diego SHP	The City of San Diego is chartered by the California legislature.
	—	Downieville	The town of Downieville has grown to a population of 5,000 by April, 1850.
	—	New York	E. Gould Buffam's (of the New York Volunteers) <i>Six Months in the Gold Mines</i> is published in New York.

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May	—	Prairie Creek Redwoods SP	At Gold Bluff Beach gold is discovered in 1850. Miners Ridge Trail becomes a pack train route for miners.
	4	San Francisco	San Francisco is engulfed by a great fire for the second time.
June	22	Santa Fe, New Mexico	New Mexico forms its own government and applies for statehood.
	—	Grass Valley	The first recognized discovery of gold quartz is made in Grass Valley.
	—	Old Town San Diego SHP	John R. Bartlett is appointed Boundary Commissioner.
July	4	San Francisco	San Francisco is burned in a third great fire.
	8	Shasta SHP	The town of Reading Springs, founded in 1849, is renamed Shasta on June 8th.
	1	Independence, Missouri	The first regular overland mail service west of the Missouri River begins between Independence, Missouri and Salt Lake City, Utah.
	4	Sonora	The first issue of the <i>Sonora Herald</i> is published.
	9	Washington, D.C.	Zachary Taylor, 12th President of the United States, dies in office in Washington, D.C. Millard Fillmore succeeds Taylor as president.
	23	Stockton	Stockton is incorporated as a city.
	24	Monterey SHP	A farewell banquet is given in honor of Gen. Bennet Riley at the Pacific House in Monterey.
	—	Monterey SHP	Gen. Bennet Riley leaves California to return to the East.
	25	Rogue River, Oregon	Gold is discovered on the Rogue River in Oregon Territory.

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August

—	Washington, D.C.		Henry Clay proposes a compromise in Congress that California be admitted as a free state, that the Utah and New Mexico territories be allowed to practice slavery, and that the slave trade--but not slavery--be abolished from the District of Columbia. Clay also urges a stiffer Fugitive Slave Law.
6		Marysville	The Marysville <i>Herald</i> is first published and edited by R.H. Taylor.
14	Fort Laramie, Wyoming		The number of gold seekers and home seekers bound for California, Oregon or Utah and stopping at Fort Laramie reaches 39,506 men, 2,421 women, 2,609 children, and 9,927 wagons by August 14th.
		Old Sacramento SHP	Squatters riot in the streets of Sacramento. Mayor Bigelow is shot and the City Assessor J.M. Woodland is mortally wounded.
15		Sacramento (Brighton)	Sacramento County Sheriff Joseph McKinney is killed by squatters at Brighton.
18		on the Sacramento River	The steamboat <i>Fawn</i> explodes on the Sacramento River.
September			
7	Washington, D.C.		The House of Representatives passes the California bill by a vote of 150 to 56.
9	Washington, D.C.		California joins the Union as the 31st state.
11	Washington, D.C.		The California delegation presents itself in Washington, D.C.
17		San Francisco	A fourth great fire engulfs San Francisco.
18	Washington, D.C.		Congress passes the Fugitive Slave Bill, requiring the return of runaway slaves to their owners.
20	Washington, D.C.		The District of Columbia abolishes slave trade.

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October

28	Salt Lake City, Utah	Brigham Young is named governor of the Utah Territory by Pres. Millard Fillmore.
18	San Francisco	Formal news of the admission of California reaches California with the arrival of the mail steamer <i>Oregon</i> , entering San Francisco harbor flying all her bunting and signaling the news.
23	Worcester, Massachusetts	The first national women's rights convention is held in Worcester, Massachusetts.
29	San Francisco	Formal celebrations--parades, flags--and commemorative medals are struck in honor of California's admission.

November

27	Gila, Arizona	Camp Independence is established at Gila on the Colorado River junction to protect gold seekers and emigrants headed for California.
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS : This Chronology was produced to provide a better historical perspective of lands now encompassing California State Parks 150 years ago. It will be expanded and revised as new information or materials are made known.

ABBREVIATIONS

Capt.	Captain
Cmdr.	Commander
Col.	Colonel
Como.	Commodore
Gen.	General
Lt.	Lieutenant
Maj.	Major
SHP	State Historic Park
SP	State Park
SR	State Reserve
SRA	State Recreation Area
Terr.	Territory

The Mission

of the California Gold Discovery to Statehood Sesquicentennial is to bring together the people of California, through events and programs, to commemorate our past and celebrate our future. The Sesquicentennial will showcase California's social and historic character, develop an appreciation of California's natural and cultural heritage, and provide a stimulus for economic development and increased tourism. In addition, the Sesquicentennial will remind the world of California's impact on changing trends, technology and international economics.

The California Sesquicentennial is for everyone. It will energize the California spirit, leaving a legacy for generations to come.